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EDITOR: T.K. Viswanathan

The Journal of Parliamentary Information, a quarterly publication brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, aims at the dissemination of authoritative information about the practices and procedures in Indian and foreign Legislatures. The Journal serves as an authentic recorder of important parliamentary events and activities. It provides a useful forum to members of Parliament and State Legislatures and other experts for the expression of their views and opinions, thereby contributing to the development and strengthening of parliamentary democracy in the country.

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EDITORIAL NOTE

The Constitution of India mandates an Address by the President to either House of Parliament or both the Houses assembled together. As per Article 87(1), at the commencement of the first session after each General Election to the Lok Sabha and at the commencement of the first session of each year, the President shall Address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform the Parliament of the causes of its summons. In fact, the President's Address is an appraisal of the performance of the Government and its policies. As such, the scope of its discussion is very wide, giving the members of Parliament an opportunity to raise their concern on all sorts of important national as well as international issues making the debate in the House a lively one.

The Budget Session, which is the first session of the year, commenced on 21 February 2013. On the same day, the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee addressed the members of both Houses of the Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House. We include the text of the Address in this issue of the *Journal*.

We also carry in this issue, the other regular features, *viz*. Parliamentary Events and Activities, Procedural Matters, Parliamentary and Constitutional Developments, Sessional Review, Recent Literature of Parliamentary Interest and Appendices.

In our constant pursuit of making the Journal more enriching and useful, we always invite and welcome suggestions for its further improvement. We also welcome practice and problem-oriented, non-partisan articles in the field of parliamentary procedures and institutions from members of Parliament and State Legislatures, scholars and all others interested in the field of parliamentary political science.

—*T.K. Viswanathan*
Editor

1

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT TO PARLIAMENT

The provision for an Address by the Head of State to Parliament goes back to the year 1921 when the Central Legislature was set up for the first time under the Government of India Act, 1919. Under article 86(1) of the Constitution, the President may address either House of Parliament or both Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require the attendance of members. Article 87(1) provides that at the commencement of the first Session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first Session of each year, the President shall address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform the Parliament of the causes of its summons.

The Address by the President is a statement of policy of the Government. It contains a review of the activities and achievements of the Government during the previous year and sets out the policies which it wishes to pursue with regard to important national and international issues. It also indicates the main items of legislative business which are proposed to be brought before Parliament during the sessions to be held that year.

The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, addressed members of both the Houses of Parliament assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House on 21 February 2013.

We reproduce below the texts of the Address.

—Editor

Honourable Members,

I welcome you to this Session as I address this joint sitting of the two Houses for the first time as President. I hope this Session will be productive and useful.

As I speak to you, I am aware that an aspirational India is emerging, an India that demands more opportunities, greater choices, better infrastructure, and enhanced safety and security. Our youth, our greatest national asset, are a confident and courageous lot. I have no doubt that their passion, energy and enterprise will take India to new heights.

Amidst these aspirations, we are also burdened by gathering anxieties about economic slowdown, job security and employment prospects. People are concerned about the security of our women and

children. They are also anxious about timely delivery of their entitlements and about persisting social and economic inequality.

The past year has been a very difficult one for the global economy. Europe is in recession. Most emerging markets are growing very slowly. It has been a difficult year for India also. Both global and domestic factors have affected our growth. We need to address the impact of both. My Government has responded to the situation by taking several measures to revive investment activity and investor sentiment.

An important initiative that my Government has taken recently is the rollout of the Direct Benefits Transfer System. This would enable Government sponsored benefits such as scholarships, pensions and maternity benefits to flow directly into the accounts of beneficiaries, who can access them using their *Aadhaar* number. In due course, the Direct Benefits Transfer System will also cover wages and subsidies on food and LPG. This system will help cut down leakages, bring millions of people into the financial system and lead to better targeting of beneficiaries. It will be a trend-setter in the use of modern technology to bring benefits to our poorest citizens, especially in rural areas. However, the Direct Benefits Transfer System will not be a substitute for public services and will be complementary to the Public Distribution System.

Honourable Members,

The average annual growth rate of GDP in the 11th Plan, which concluded last year, was 8 per cent. A notable feature of the Plan was the progress towards achieving inclusiveness with a faster decline in poverty than in the previous decade. The National Development Council has recently adopted the 12th Five Year Plan, which further sharpens the focus on faster, more inclusive and sustainable growth. The 12th Plan recognises that growth outcomes will depend upon the extent to which we are able to take some difficult decisions. The Plan proposes to consolidate Centrally Sponsored Schemes into a smaller number and increase their flexibility. This will give States the much-needed freedom to experiment and innovate.

The Indian economy is currently experiencing slower growth. Real GDP grew by 5.4 per cent in the first half of the current fiscal year. This is significantly lower than the average of around 8 per cent in the last decade. Our slower growth is the consequence of a combination of global and domestic factors. My Government is taking steps to deal

with the factors responsible for the slowdown. Inflation is easing gradually but is still a problem.

In recent months, there have been positive developments too. There has been a moderation in core inflation and recovery in growth is likely. Policy measures announced during the year have also restored optimism at home and abroad.

My Government has announced a roadmap for fiscal consolidation by containing the current year's fiscal deficit at 5.3 per cent of the GDP. The Government is also working with the State Governments to reach a consensus on the Goods and Services Tax.

Honourable Members,

There is reason for cheer on the agricultural front. The growth in agriculture and allied sectors during the 11th Plan was 3.7 per cent compared to 2.4 per cent in the 10th Plan.

I am proud to mention that relentless efforts of farmers coupled with conducive policies of the Government, have resulted in record foodgrain production for two consecutive years with last year achieving a peak of 260 million tons. This year, despite erratic and deficient rainfall, it is projected that we will produce more than 250 million tons of foodgrains.

Our foodgrains position is, therefore, comfortable. The total stock of foodgrains with the public sector agencies was 662 lakh tons on 1st February 2013, including 307 lakh tons of wheat and over 353 lakh tons of rice. My Government is committed to enacting the National Food Security Bill, having received the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Several specific initiatives have been undertaken under the *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna*. Sugarcane and cotton production have touched record levels in 2011-12.

My Government will continue to lay emphasis on the development of rainfed and degraded areas during the 12th Five Year Plan. An outlay of ₹ 29,296 crore has been earmarked under the Integrated Watershed Management Programme during the plan period.

Horticulture production reached an all-time high of 251 million tons during 2011-12. The year 2012-13 has been declared as the 'Year of Horticulture'. A National Centre for Cold Chain Development has been constituted to give a fillip to the cold chain sector.

With 128 million tons of milk production in 2011-12, India continues to be the largest producer of milk in the world. In order to meet the rapidly growing demand for milk, the Government has approved the National Dairy Plan Phase-I, which will help meet the projected national demand of 150 million tons of milk by 2016-17.

To give a further boost to food processing, my Government has launched the National Mission on Food Processing. Construction of godowns is being promoted under Public Private Partnership mode. Storage capacity of about 181 lakh tons will be created over the next two years across the country with additional storage space of 5.4 lakh tons in the North East.

The recently approved New Investment Policy for urea is expected to create nearly 100 lakh MT of additional production capacity in urea by 2017, making the country self reliant in urea.

Around 34 lakh hectares of irrigation potential was created under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme during the 11th Plan. During the 12th Plan, an additional 87 lakh hectares of irrigation potential is planned to be created under the Programme. The New National Water Policy adopted recently by the National Water Resources Council emphasizes efficient use of water and the need to align planning for water resources with the challenges of climate change, equity, social justice and sustainability.

Honourable Members,

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme continues to break new ground in my Government's effort to provide work to those who seek employment during times of hardship. Around 5 crore households were provided employment under the scheme in 2011-12.

In order to make available improved housing for the rural poor, the Government has substantially enhanced the assistance under *Indira Awas Yojana* by increasing it from ₹ 45,000 to ₹ 70,000 per unit in plain areas and from ₹ 48,500 to ₹ 75,000 per unit in hilly and difficult areas including Left Wing Extremism affected areas.

My Government has recently introduced important official amendments to the Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill. I am confident that the law will be enacted.

The next phase of the Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission is

being finalized. Meanwhile, the tenure of the current Mission has been extended until March 2014 for completion of ongoing projects and for sanction of new projects so as to maintain the momentum of development of urban infrastructure. In order to give a push to capacity building efforts of Urban Local Bodies, the Government has decided to create a separate fund of ₹ 1,000 crore.

My Government proposes to extend the *Rajiv Awas Yojana* to all small and medium towns, with a target of one million houses in the 12th Plan.

My Government is giving priority to addressing the problem of contamination of sources of drinking water. During 2012-13, 5 per cent of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme Fund has been earmarked for allocation to States facing this problem. A Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Project for Low Income States, estimated at nearly ₹ 5000 crore, is being developed with the help of the World Bank to assist States that are lagging behind in the coverage of piped water supply.

Recognising its crucial role in reducing the burden of disease, my Government has accorded increased priority to rural sanitation. The Total Sanitation Campaign has been modified in the form of the *Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan* with the goal of providing access to sanitation for all rural households by the year 2022.

My Government has recently increased the pension for widows and disabled beneficiaries under the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme from ₹ 200 to ₹ 300 per month. On attaining the age of 80 years, beneficiaries of both the schemes now migrate to Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme where they get a pension of ₹ 500 per month.

With a view to recognizing the contribution of street vendors and ensuring uniformity in the legal framework for street vending across States, the "Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill, 2012" has been introduced in the Parliament.

Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, more than 32 lakh claims have been filed and nearly 13 lakh titles have been distributed.

To ensure the educational empowerment of minority communities, my Government is implementing three scholarship schemes, with

30 per cent of the funds in each scheme earmarked for girl students. An amount of over ₹ 880 crore has been disbursed as scholarships to more than 55 lakh students till 31 December in 2012-13. To encourage students belonging to minority communities to take up higher studies, an amount of ₹ 66 crore has been released under the Maulana Azad National Fellowship Scheme. The Wakf Act is being amended and Wakf Development Corporation will be set up for development and protection of Wakf properties.

Under Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme, the effort is to ensure that 15 per cent of the targets and outlays of the identified schemes benefit the minority communities. For financial inclusion, the flow of priority sector credit to minorities at the national level during 2012-13 reached ₹ 1,71,960 crore as on 30/9/2012, which was more than 15 per cent of the total priority sector lending.

As promised by my predecessor last year, a new Bill for the elimination of manual scavenging and rehabilitation of manual scavengers was introduced in the Lok Sabha in September 2012.

A centrally sponsored scholarship scheme has been introduced for Scheduled Caste students studying in classes IX and X. It is expected to benefit about 40 lakh students.

My Government has created a separate Department of Disability Affairs. The Government recently launched the Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for students with disabilities to enable them to pursue higher education.

For holistic development of children, the Government has approved the restructuring and strengthening of the Integrated Child Development Scheme during the 12th Plan with a total outlay of ₹ 1,23,580 crore.

My Government has enacted a path-breaking legislation, the 'Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act', which provides for stringent punishment for persons who commit or abet such offences.

For ensuring a safe and secure environment for women in work places, the Government introduced the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Bill, 2012 in the Parliament. The Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha. My Government is also deeply concerned about incidents of sexual offences against women. After considering the recommendations of the Justice J.S. Verma Committee, the Government has promulgated an Ordinance,

amending the criminal law to provide for stringent punishment for heinous sexual offences against women. The Government has also begun to implement a series of administrative measures to improve the safety and security of women in the country.

The National Mission for Empowerment of Women will implement a pilot project in public hospitals in 100 districts, called "One Stop Crisis Centre", a specialized facility for providing all necessary services for women subjected to violence.

The Mid-day Meal Programme today covers around 11 crore children in over 12 lakh schools. Several new initiatives have been taken by the Government to make it more effective. My Government is committed to expanding coverage under this programme to pre-primary schools in a progressive manner.

My Government is considering a strategic shift in central funding to States for higher education through a new programme called the *Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan*. This programme will encourage States to develop comprehensive higher education plans in an integrated manner to address the issues of expansion, equity and excellence.

My Government has taken major strides in accelerating our skill development efforts. The number of ITIs that stood at 5114 in 2006-07, more than doubled to 10,344 by the end of 2012.

Honourable Members,

In January 2013, we completed two years without detection of even a single case of wild polio-virus. This is the longest polio-free period in the country ever since eradication efforts were launched.

In health infrastructure, over 43,500 new construction and up-gradation works of health facilities were taken up in the period 2005-06 to 2012-13 and nearly 70,000 additional beds have been added in Government health institutions. During the same period, around 1.45 lakh medicare staff has been added in various States under the National Rural Health Mission.

To overcome the shortage of nursing staff, Government has sanctioned over 200 nursing schools in remote and under-served districts in the last two years. To increase the availability of doctors and specialists, several reforms were initiated, resulting in a record increase of 46 per cent MBBS seats and 70 per cent Post Graduate seats in the last five years. An overarching National Health Mission, covering both rural and urban areas, is being finalized.

The President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee arriving in procession to address Members of Parliament on 21 February 2013.

Over 1.1 crore women benefited from the *Janani Suraksha Yojana* during 2011-12. Under the *Janani Sishu Suraksha Karyakram*, pregnant women are entitled to absolutely free care in public health institutions.

To further improve child health, my Government has launched the *Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram* for screening of children below 18 years for 30 different types of diseases, disorders, deficiencies and disabilities. This national initiative will eventually cover around 270 million children across the country.

Due to efforts of the Government, there have been significant reductions in Maternal Mortality Rate, Infant Mortality Rate and Total Fertility Rate in recent years. Life expectancy at birth has increased from 61.9 years in the period 1996-2000 to 66.1 years in the period 2006-2010.

The National AIDS Control Programme has been recognized globally as a success story. The programme has reduced annual new HIV infections by 57 per cent in the last decade. Adult HIV prevalence has decreased from 0.40 per cent in 2000 to 0.27 per cent in 2011.

Since the launch of the *Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana*, more than 3.35 crore smart cards have been issued and more than 43.26 lakh persons have availed hospitalization facility under the scheme. This insurance scheme has been extended to building and other construction workers, street vendors, *beedi* workers and other categories.

Honourable Members,

Lack of adequate and quality infrastructure is a major hurdle in the fast growth of our economy. Therefore, it is imperative that the infrastructure deficit is overcome and adequate investment takes place. Government has taken two major steps to ensure that impediments in this area are eliminated.

The first is setting up of the Cabinet Committee on Investment to expedite decisions on approvals and clearances for implementation of projects. The second is the creation of Infrastructure Debt Funds to raise low-cost, long-term resources for refinancing infrastructure projects.

My Government remains committed to increasing the share of manufacturing to 25 per cent of GDP and creating 100 million jobs within a decade. Under the National Manufacturing Policy, 12 National Investment & Manufacturing Zones stand notified, 8 of them along the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor and 4 others at Nagpur, Tumkur,

Chittor and Medak. The Government has also liberalized the FDI policy in single-brand and multi-brand retail trading, air transport services, power exchanges and the broadcasting sector. The E-Biz project has been launched to serve as a 24x7 online single window system for providing services to investors and businesses.

The National Electric Mobility Mission Plan–2020 has been prepared. It envisages a roadmap for facilitating manufacture of electric and hybrid vehicles that are environment friendly and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

My Government has notified the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy-2012 to ensure availability of essential medicines at affordable prices even while providing sufficient opportunity for innovation and competition to support the growth of the industry. Six new National Institutes of Pharmaceutical Education & Research at Hyderabad, Gandhinagar, Hajipur, Kolkata, Guwahati and Raebareli have started functioning.

My Government has taken effective measures to incentivize exports and provide support to labour intensive sectors. India became the largest exporter of rice in 2012-13.

With a view to providing further support to handloom weavers, the Government is considering a scheme for concessional credit for the handloom sector to benefit about 10 lakh handloom weavers.

To promote Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, 20 per cent of all Government procurement is required to be from Micro & Small Enterprises. The Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange launched Small and Medium Enterprises exchange platforms in 2012, making access to capital markets easier.

As a major step forward in reforming our banking sector, the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012 was passed by both the Houses of Parliament in December, 2012. The Government amended the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 for more effective prevention of money laundering.

Pursuing the Budget announcement of 2012-13, Government has notified the Rajiv Gandhi Equity Savings Scheme for first-time retail investors. Through the disinvestment policy, we have broad-based people's ownership of Government enterprises.

The tourism sector contributes substantially to the country's foreign

exchange earnings, which during 2012 were estimated at ₹ 94,487 crore, a growth of over 21 per cent over the previous year. Foreign tourist arrivals in India in 2012 were estimated at 6.65 million.

India is the ninth largest civil aviation market in the world. Kolkata and Chennai Airports now have new terminals. My Government has given 'in-principle' approval for setting up a greenfield airport at Aranmula in Kerala, apart from airports at Navi Mumbai, Mopa and Kannur.

The Dedicated Freight Corridor project is an ambitious mega project connecting our Eastern and Western Coasts with the interiors of the country and will cover 3300 km of railway track. Construction of over 1000 km route length is expected to begin shortly.

A state of the art Coach Production Facility at Raebareli has been commissioned for producing modern stainless steel coaches. Innovative approaches under the PPP mode are being launched for first-and-last-mile projects and development of railway stations. Construction of the Banihal-Qazigund tunnel in Jammu & Kashmir has been completed and work on starting train services is in progress.

In 2012-13, 2600 km of roads are expected to be constructed and contracts for 3000 km of new roads are expected to be awarded. A new approach to road construction, the EPC mode, has been put in place. This will ensure significant cost and time savings compared to traditional contracting methods. A length of 2900 km of highways will be put under the Operate, Maintain and Transfer system, which will improve road maintenance. To improve connectivity from Kashmir Valley to Kargil-Ladakh region, a tunnel of 6.5 km has already been approved and another tunnel of 13 km is planned. This would ensure all weather connectivity.

In 2012-13, 42 PPP port projects have been targeted for award, involving an additional capacity of 251 Million Tonnes Per Annum with an investment of ₹ 14,770 crore in 2012-13. The Government proposes to establish two new major ports, one at Sagar Island in West Bengal and the other in Andhra Pradesh with a total additional capacity of around 100 Million Tonnes Per Annum.

A number of steps such as technology development and modernization and development of new coal blocks by engaging Mine Developer and Operator have been taken to improve the productivity of Coal India Limited (CIL). After resolving pending issues, 46 Fuel Supply Agreements were signed by CIL with power utilities. Following the notification of

the new Auction by Competitive Bidding Rules, my Government is in the process of allocation of 17 coal blocks to Government companies, as a first step.

My Government has taken important steps to harness our mineral resources. Geological Survey of India has planned to complete the geophysical and geochemical mapping of highly promising 5.71 lakh square km area during the 12th Plan. For developing deep sea mineral exploration capability, an Ocean Going Research Vessel is likely to be commissioned in 2013.

In the 11th Plan, 54,964 MW of electricity generation capacity has been added which is about two & half times the capacity added during the 10th Plan. The total installed capacity stood at about 2 lakh MW at the end of the 11th Plan. To meet the projected demand by the end of the 12th Plan, the targeted capacity addition in the Plan is 88,537 MW.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana, more than one lakh un-electrified villages have been electrified. Nearly 2,85,000 villages have been intensively electrified and free electricity connections given to more than 2 crore BPL households.

A scheme for financial restructuring of state owned distribution companies has been notified by the Government of India to enable their turnaround and long-term viability. This would help settle loans worth more than ₹ 1.85 lakh crore that the power utilities owe to financial institutions.

Through suitable policy interventions, my Government is targeting significant reduction of our dependence on imported oil and gas which is presently more than 75 per cent of our requirement.

Renewable energy has to play an expanding role in achieving energy security in the years ahead. The country has an installed capacity of over 26,400 MW from various renewable energy sources, which is over 12 per cent of the country's total power generation capacity.

My Government's reform measures and proactive policies, as well as active participation by the private sector have resulted in an unprecedented growth of the telecom sector. With more than 935 million telephone connections, the Indian telecom network is the second largest in the world. Tele-density was 76.75 per cent in October 2012 with rural tele-density crossing 40 per cent. The Government

approved the National Telecom Policy-2012 which lays down the vision and strategic direction for the telecom sector. Two and a half lakh Gram Panchayats will be connected with broadband facility under the National Optical Fibre Network Project by December 2014.

The Department of Posts is rolling out a rural ICT programme, through which all post offices will be connected electronically. Computers will be provided to 1,30,000 post offices, which would facilitate both postal and banking services at post offices.

In 2011-12, the Indian IT and IT Enabled Services industry showed remarkable resilience by earning revenue of US$ 101 billion. The total employment in IT Software and Services touched 2.8 million in 2011-12, with an annual growth of about 9 per cent.

My Government has approved the National Electronics Policy, 2012, covering a comprehensive set of schemes with special focus on promoting domestic Electronics System Design and Manufacturing. The National Policy on Information Technology has been approved. It envisions strengthening and enhancing India's position as a global hub for IT and using IT as an engine for rapid, inclusive and sustainable growth. About 1,00,000 Citizen Service Centres are delivering IT services to the people.

The Government has successfully completed the first phase of Cable TV digitization in three metro cities. This will be extended to other cities in a phased manner.

Honourable Members,

We are commemorating 100 years of Indian cinema. The first phase of the National Museum of Indian Cinema is proposed to be dedicated to the nation at Gulshan Mahal, Mumbai.

During 2012, Government commemorated the 150th Birth Anniversaries of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, Shri Madan Mohan Malaviya and Shri Motilal Nehru apart from undertaking preparatory work for observing the 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and the Centenary of the *Gadar* movement. A new International Award, namely the "Tagore Award for Cultural Harmony", has been instituted. The first award will be given posthumously to late Pandit Ravi Shankar. A National Mission for Libraries commenced its work in 2012.

The Archaeological Survey of India celebrated 150 years of existence in 2012 and took up important initiatives in Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos for restoration of temples there.

The performance of our athletes at the London Olympics and the Paralympics was encouraging. My Government has decided to put in place a long-term plan for training of sports-persons in select disciplines. My Government also intends to put in place a new system for identification of sports talent from the panchayat to the district level.

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development in Tamil Nadu has been accorded the status of an institute of national importance.

Honourable Members,

Some parts of our country have in the recent past witnessed communal incidents. My Government is determined to thwart any attempt at disturbing our communal peace and harmony.

In July 2012, incidents of violence took place in some districts of Assam, in which about hundred persons were killed. In order to control the violence, adequate army and paramilitary forces were deployed. The State Government set up relief camps and provided basic amenities to the affected people. The Central Government announced a package of ₹ 300 crore for relief and rehabilitation efforts.

Incidents of Left Wing extremist violence have shown a declining trend. The number of deaths in naxal violence declined from 611 in 2011 to 414 in 2012.

My Government is committed to dealing with Left Wing Extremism in a comprehensive manner. It is pursuing a two-pronged approach of conducting proactive and sustained operations against extremists and focussing attention on development and governance issues in extremist affected areas. A new scheme for construction and strengthening of 400 police stations has been started in the affected areas. The first phase of the plan for improving road connectivity in 34 most affected districts at a cost of ₹ 7,300 crore is likely to be completed by March, 2015.

The security situation in Jammu & Kashmir and the North East has shown a perceptible improvement. The number of tourists visiting Jammu & Kashmir has increased from 8.99 lakh in 2011 to 12.37 lakh in 2012. Compared with 2011, the number of fatalities in incidents of terrorist violence in 2012 declined by nearly half. Under the placement linked scheme named *Udaan*, proposals of corporate houses to train nearly 25,000 youth from Jammu & Kashmir have already been approved.

Under another placement linked skill development initiative called *Himayat*, more than 1650 youth from the State have been trained, of which over 650 have been employed.

My Government has accorded high priority to Border Management. In addition to the work of border fencing, roads and floodlighting along the borders with Bangladesh, Pakistan and Myanmar, Government has decided to undertake the construction of 509 additional border outposts along the Indo-Bangladesh and Indo-Pakistan border. The Integrated Check Post at Attari was operationalised in April, 2012.

In pursuance of the tri-partite agreement, an autonomous body called the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) has been formed in August, 2012 for the Darjeeling Hill Areas. My Government will provide the GTA financial assistance of ₹ 200 crore per annum for 3 years for development of socio-economic infrastructure. This will be over and above the normal plan assistance to the State of West Bengal.

Honourable Members,

My Government remains committed to ushering in reforms for greater transparency, probity, integrity and accountability in governance. To this end, my Government attaches priority to the enactment of legislation proposed in the Whistle Blowers' Protection Bill, the Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organizations Bill, Citizens' Right to Grievance Redress Bill, and The *Lokpal* and *Lokayuktas* Bill, which already stand introduced in the Parliament. My Government is also considering amendments to the Prevention of Corruption Act to punish the guilty and protect the honest public servants more effectively.

My Government has taken significant initiatives including enhanced funding of ₹ 4867 crore in the 12th Plan to strengthen the legal and judicial infrastructure in the country. Over 14,000 District and Subordinate Courts are being equipped with the tools of information and communication to provide quality citizen-centric services to litigants. As one of its foremost priorities, Government will endeavour to establish *Gram Nyayalayas* for ensuring affordable and expeditious justice to the common man. My Government proposes to introduce the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill in this Session as a significant initiative towards judicial reforms.

Honourable Members,

The people of India are grateful to our Armed Forces for their exemplary professionalism, commitment and bravery in defending our nation. The country is united in paying tribute to our soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice by laying down their lives for the country.

Our Armed Forces are fully prepared to defend the country against any threat. My Government will continue to take all necessary steps to modernize and equip our Armed Forces; bolster defence infrastructure, especially in the border areas; encourage indigenous defence R&D; and expand domestic production of defence equipment. The continuing progress in our missile programme has strengthened our deterrence capability. Coastal security has also been further strengthened.

My Government attaches the highest importance to the welfare of servicemen and ex-servicemen. Significant steps have been taken to enhance the pay and pension of serving and retired Services personnel and to remove disparities. This will benefit over 13 lakh personnel.

My Government's foreign policy continues to be driven by the objectives of creating an enabling environment for our national development, ensuring the security of the nation and fulfilling our international responsibilities.

We continue to seek peace, stability, cooperation and economic development in the sub-continent. We attach the highest priority to relations with our immediate neighbours. With Pakistan, we have made progress towards normalization of relations, strengthening mechanisms for bilateral trade and facilitating greater people-to-people contact. While we remain committed to taking the process forward, it is also important that Pakistan abides by its commitments and desists from acts that contribute to a trust deficit. As Afghanistan prepares for the political and security transition in 2014 and beyond, we will continue to help Afghanistan evolve peacefully and fight terrorism and extremism.

My Government proposes to introduce a Constitutional Amendment Bill in the Parliament to give effect to the provisions of the Land Boundary Agreement with Bangladesh and its 2011 Protocol, which will strengthen border management and our security.

We are making progress in our engagement with Sri Lanka, including in our efforts to resettle and rehabilitate the internally displaced persons there and to ensure a life of peace, dignity and equality for the Tamil people.

In West Asia and North Africa, my Government supports efforts

to promote peaceful settlement of conflicts and resolution of disputes in a manner that accommodates the democratic aspirations of the people. We are also mindful of the fact that the Gulf region is home to nearly six million Indians who live and work there and that we depend on the region for the bulk of our energy requirements. We have further enhanced our political engagement with and economic assistance to countries of Africa.

At the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in New Delhi in December 2012, which marked the tenth anniversary of the annual ASEAN-India Summits, we elevated our relations with ASEAN to a strategic partnership and concluded negotiations on an ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement on services and investment.

My Government intends to work with the new Chinese leadership to reinforce the positive direction of our relationship. Our multi-faceted relationship with Japan, which is also a major partner in our infrastructure development efforts, is making good progress. The privileged and strategic partnership we have built with Russia received a further boost during the visit of President Valdimir Putin in December 2012.

The Strategic Partnership with the United States has deepened, with progress across all areas of our relationship and we look forward to intensifying this engagement during the second term of President Obama. India's traditionally strong relations with Europe will continue to develop. The visit of President Francois Hollande to Delhi in February 2013, his first Asian destination as President, will further strengthen our friendship and broad-based strategic cooperation with France.

As a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council during the last two years, India played an important role in the Council's efforts to promote international peace and security. We intensified efforts to generate momentum for early reform of the United Nations Security Council. We are also seeking concerted international action against piracy. In addition, a Piracy Bill was introduced in the Parliament last year for prosecution in India of persons committing piracy.

India also remained constructively engaged in global multilateral diplomacy. We hosted the fourth BRICS Summit in New Delhi in March 2012 and the ministerial meet of the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation in October 2012.

As our development partnership expands and assumes an increasingly vital role in our foreign policy, my Government has established a Development Partnership Administration in the Ministry of External Affairs for more efficient and effective administration of our wide-ranging assistance programme, which covers financial aid, capacity building and training and the sharing of our development experience and expertise.

My Government has successfully completed the implementation of the Passport *Seva* Project, one of the mission-mode projects under the National e-Governance Plan, to deliver passport related services to our citizens in a timely, convenient and transparent manner.

My Government is deeply committed to promoting the interests and welfare of overseas Indians. The Government launched the *Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Suraksha Yojana* on a pilot basis in May 2012 to provide emigrant Indian workers benefits like life insurance cover, pensions and Return and Resettlement savings. We also signed Social Security Agreements with Finland, Canada, Japan and Sweden. Similar agreements with Austria and Portugal will be signed soon.

Honourable Members,

Our space programme epitomizes India's scientific achievements and benefits the country in a number of areas. The launch of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle on 9 September 2012 marked our 100th space mission. India's first remote sensing satellite RISAT-1, with all-weather imaging capability, was also launched in 2012. Several space missions are planned for 2013, including India's first mission to Mars and the launch of our first navigational satellite.

The country continues to make progress in the field of nuclear energy. Electricity generation from nuclear power plants increased by about 23 per cent in 2011-12 over the previous year. This year, two units of the nuclear power plant at Kudankulam, established with Russian collaboration, will be commissioned. My Government attaches the highest priority to the safety of nuclear power plants. A Bill to set up a Nuclear Safety Regulatory Authority has been introduced in the Parliament. We have also conducted internal technical reviews of all safety systems of nuclear power plants in the country. In addition, we are working with the International Atomic Energy Agency on all nuclear safety issues.

The Government has unveiled the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2013 to accelerate the pace of discovery, diffusion and delivery of science-led solutions for faster, sustainable and inclusive growth. In order to popularize science education in schools, nearly 7.30 lakh scholarships have been awarded under a scheme called Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research. About 48 per cent of the awardees are girls and 25 per cent belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. A new PPP doctoral fellowship titled ''Prime Minister's Fellowship Scheme for Doctoral Research" has been implemented this year.

The Government is setting up a dedicated Seismological Research Laboratory and has launched a first-of-its-kind research programme in the earthquake-prone Koyna-Warna region of Maharashtra to study precursor changes. The Indian tsunami early warning system was recognized as the Regional Tsunami Service Provider for the Indian Ocean region in October 2012. India's third permanent station in Antarctica was commissioned in March 2012.

India successfully hosted the eleventh Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Hyderabad in October, 2012. The event provided India with an opportunity to consolidate, scale-up and showcase its strengths in the field of biodiversity. One of the most important outcomes of this Conference was the commitment made by the Parties to double the total biodiversity-related international financial resource flows to developing countries by 2015. At the Conference, the Prime Minister launched the 'Hyderabad Pledge', wherein he announced earmarking US $50 million during India's presidency of the Conference of Parties to strengthen the institutional, technical and human capabilities for biodiversity conservation in India, and to promote similar capacity building in other developing countries.

At the recently held Doha Conference on Climate Change, India played a lead role in ensuring that the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility continue to be recognized as the basis of the Parties' efforts under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Honourable Members,

India stands tall as a nation because we are seen as a liberal and plural democracy, which has faced and overcome tremendous odds. The world recognizes India's demonstrable democratic and secular practices as a major achievement. While we should rejoice in the

benefits that our plurality brings, the challenge is to relentlessly pursue our efforts to accelerate economic growth and widen opportunities within our democratic framework. It is only if we constantly renew and defend the democratic values that define our nationhood that we will be able to face the great challenges that lie before us. On behalf of my Government, I appeal to all of you to support our endeavours in marching ahead as a proud nation.

JAI HIND !

2

PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

128th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Quito: The 128th Assembly of Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) was held in Quito, Ecuador from 22 to 27 March 2013. An Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by Shri Kariya Munda, Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha attended the Assembly. The other members of the Delegation were Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya, Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Prof. Sheikh Saidul Haque, Dr. Vijaylakshmi Sadho, and Smt. Putul Kumari, all Members of Parliament; and the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, Shri Shumsher K. Sheriff. Shri S. Bal Shekar, Additional Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, was Secretary to the Delegation.

The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda addressed the General Assembly during the General Debate held on the overall theme "*From unrelenting growth to purposeful development "Buen Vivir": New approaches, new solutions".*

During the Assembly, the three Standing Committees met and the details of the Indian delegation's participation are as follows:

- Enforcing the responsibility to protect: The role of Parliament in safeguarding civilians' lives (First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security).
- Fair trade and innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development (Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade).
- The use of media, including social media, to enhance citizen engagement and democracy (Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights).

Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya, Prof. Sheikh Saidul Haque, and Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho participated in the deliberations of the First, Second and Third Standing Committees, respectively.

The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda, Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, and Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho participated in the meetings of the 192nd Session of the Governing Council.

Prof. Sheikh Saidul Haque participated in the panel discussion on "*The legalization of drugs: Can it help curb organized crime?"* Smt. Putul Kumari attended the panel discussion on "*Addressing the rights of children with disabilities*". Smt. Putul Kumari participated in the workshop on "*Ensuring accountability for Women's and Children's Health*". Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya participated in the workshop on "*Towards a new vision for Sustainable Development: What place for Democratic Governance?"*

Shri Shumsher K. Sheriff, Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha participated in the Meeting of Association of Secretaries-General of Parliaments (ASGP).

CWP India Region Seminar on "Gender Justice and Responsive Governance": On the occasion of International Women's Day (8 March), a two day Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) Seminar on "Gender, Justice and Responsive Governance" was organized by the CPA India Region in the Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi on 8 and 9 March 2013. Thirty-eight delegates/CWP Members from CPA Branches attended the Seminar. Km. Meenakshi Natarajan, MP, Lok Sabha and Smt. Vandana Chavan, MP, Rajya Sabha attended the Seminar as India Union Branch Delegates.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar inaugurated the Seminar on 8 March 2013. The Welcome address was delivered by Smt. Chandresh Kumari Katoch, the Minister of Culture and Chairperson, India Region CWP Steering Committee. The first Session was held on 8 March 2013 on the theme "Gender and Criminal Justice System: Challenges to understanding Crimes against Women in Society". Dr. (Kum.) Girija Vyas, MP, Lok Sabha delivered the Keynote Address. The Session was chaired by Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, MP, Lok Sabha. Twenty-four delegates participated in the discussion.

The second Session was held on 9 March 2013 on the topic "Need for a special programme for creating awareness of legal rights among Women". Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, MP, Lok Sabha Chaired the Session. Rajkumari Ratna Singh, MP, Lok Sabha and Chairperson, Committee on Empowerment of Women and Member, India Region CWP Steering Committee, India Region delivered the Keynote Address. Twenty-five delegates participated in the discussion. A documentary film "India-the Motherland" was also screened for the delegates.

An Exhibition on "Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in

India" was put up during the seminar (details are covered under the heading Parliament Museum).

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES OF NATIONAL LEADERS

On the birth anniversaries of national leaders whose portraits adorn the Central Hall of Parliament House, functions are organized under the auspices of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) to pay tributes to the leaders. Booklets containing the profiles of these leaders, prepared by the Library and Reference, Research, Documentation and Information Service (LARRDIS) of the Lok Sabha Secretariat, are distributed on the occasion.

The birth anniversaries of the following leaders were celebrated during the period 1 January to 31 March 2013:

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, a function was held on 23 January 2013 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda; the Leader of House in Lok Sabha and Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretaries-General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha; and senior officers of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariats paid floral tributes to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Lala Lajpat Rai: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai, a function was held on 28 January 2013 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha; and seniors officers of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariats paid floral tributes to Lala Lajpat Rai.

Smt. Sarojini Naidu: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Smt. Sarojini Naidu, a function was held on 13 February 2013 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Leader of House in Lok Sabha and Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde; the Chairman of the BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; Union Minister, Shri V. Narayanasamy; Chairman of the Committee on Privileges, Shri P.C. Chacko; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha; and officers of the Secretariats of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha paid floral tributes to Smt. Sarojini Naidu.

The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar and Minister of Culture and Chairperson, India Region CWP Steering Committee, Smt. Chandresh Kumari Katoch at the inauguration of the Seminar on 'Gender Justice and Responsive Governance' on 8 March 2013. Also seen in the picture are the Secretaries-General of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.

Shri Morarji Desai: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Shri Morarji Desai, a function was held on 28 February 2013 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar; Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Smt. Sushma Swaraj; Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Prof. P.J. Kurien; the Chairman of BJP Parliamentary Party, Shri L.K. Advani; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha paid floral tributes to Shri Morarji Desai.

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia: On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, a function was held on 23 March 2013 in the Central Hall of Parliament House. Union Ministers, Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar and Shri V. Narayanasamy; members of Parliament; former members of Parliament; the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha paid floral tributes to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.

EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Foreign Parliamentary Delegations Visiting India

Vietnam: An 11-Member Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mrs. Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan, Secretary of the Party Central Committee and Vice-Chairman of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam visited India from 20 to 25 February 2013. On 21 February 2013, the delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar. The delegation also met the Chairman, Standing Committee on External Affairs, Shri Ananth Kumar, and other members of the Committee. A dinner was hosted by the Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha, Shri Kariya Munda, in honour of the delegation.

Russia: A 43-Member Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mrs. Valentina I. Matvienko, Chairperson of the Council of Federation, Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation visited India from 25 to 27 February 2013. On 26 February 2013, the delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar. Later, the delegation called on the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

Iran: A 46-Member Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Dr. Ali Ardeshir Larijani, Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of the

Islamic Republic of Iran visited India from 24 February to 01 March 2013. On 27 February 2013, the delegation called on the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee; the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; the Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar. The delegation also met the Minister of External Affairs, Shri Salman Khurshid; and Shri Rajiv Mathur, Secretary, Ministry of Disinvestment on the same day. On 28 February 2013, the delegation met the Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri E. Ahmed. On the same day, the delegation also met the Vice-Presidents of the India-Iran Parliamentary Friendship Group, Shri Sk. Nurul Islam and Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi and other members of the Group.

Macedonia: An 11-Member Parliamentary Delegation led by H.E. Mr. Trajko Veljanoski, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia visited India from 4 to 8 March 2013. On 5 March 2013, the delegation called on the Vice-President of India and Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari; and the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar. On 6 March 2013, the delegation met the Minister of State for External Affairs, Smt. Preneet Kaur; and the Chairman of Standing Committee on External Affairs, Shri Ananth Kumar and other members of the Committee.

Indian Parliamentary Delegations Visiting Abroad

Myanmar: A 12-Member Indian Parliamentary Delegation led by the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar visited Myanmar from 12 to 15 February 2013. The other members of the delegation were Smt. Maneka Gandhi, Sarvashri Bhakta Charan Das, S. Semmalai, and Joseph Toppo, all members of Parliament; Shri T.K. Viswanathan, Secretary-General, Lok Sabha and Dr. Sundeep Khanna, Principal Secretary to Speaker, Lok Sabha. Shri U.S. Saxena, Joint Secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat was Secretary to the delegation.

Visit of Foreign Dignitaries to Parliament House

Mauritius: The Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar called on the President of Republic of Mauritius, H.E. Mr. Rajkeswur Purryag, on 4 January 2013.

Romania: Mr. Titus Corlatean, Foreign Minister of Romania called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 7 March 2013.

Africa: A group of 36 Young Parliamentarians from 18 countries of the African Continent called on the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 19 March 2013.

PARLIAMENT MUSEUM

During the period 1 January to 31 March 2013, a total of 7,905 visitors visited the Museum. Apart from general visitors, 4,068 students from 50 schools/colleges from all over the country visited the Museum. A number of present and former members of Parliament, members of State legislatures and foreign dignitaries/delegations also visited the Museum. Among the foreign dignitaries, delegations from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Canada, Macedonia, South Africa, Vietnam and Sweden, visited the Museum. As many as 1,77,225 visitors have visited the Museum from 5 September 2006 (*i.e*. the date of opening of the Museum for general public) to 31 March 2013.

Exhibition on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in India: An Exhibition titled *'Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in India'* was organized during the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) India Region Seminar held in Parliament House Annexe on 8 and 9 March, 2013. The two-day Exhibition was inaugurated by Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar on 8 March 2013.

The Exhibition provided valuable insight into the status of women empowerment in India with the help of audio-visual presentations, photographic exhibits, write-ups and statistical charts. The principle of gender equality enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the existing women-related legislations in India were depicted. Elaborate focus was made on the various policies and programmes of the Government aimed at advancement of women welfare and the current institutional dispensation in the country dedicated to women empowerment.

Exhibits showcasing the role of women in different sectors of economy, self-help groups and improvement in various indicators of life expectancy, literacy, education, infant mortality rate, etc. which underlined the enhanced status of women in India were also put up. The growing participation of women in rural areas in the Panchayati Raj institutions and in its urban local bodies facilitated by reservation of seats was also brought to focus.

Information pertaining to the representation of women in the Constituent Assembly of India and in both the Houses of Parliament–Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha; and the role of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on

Empowerment of Women were displayed. India's ratification of various international conventions and human rights instruments for securing equal rights of women and the country's participation in Inter-Parliamentary Conferences relating to women issues were also emphasized in the Exhibition. The Exhibition also showcased some audio-visual presentations *viz.* a video slideshow titled 'Women Achievers of India'; a film titled 'India–the Motherland' and a video recording of the 'Speech delivered by Hon'ble Speaker at the Seventh Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliaments'.

The Exhibition was viewed and appreciated by many delegates attending the Seminar and comments were recorded in the visitor's book by Hon'ble Speaker and other dignitaries.

BUREAU OF PARLIAMENTARY STUDIES AND TRAINING

Orientation Programme: An Orientation Programme for Newly Elected Members of the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha was organized from 26 to 28 February 2013. Twenty four Members attended the programme.

Special Training Programme for Afghan Legislators: A Special Training Programme for members of the Upper House of Afghanistan Parliament was organized from 11 to 15 February 2013. 92 Members attended the programme.

Twenty-eighth International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting: The 28th International Training Programme in Legislative Drafting was organized from 14 February to 15 March 2013. Fifty-four participants from different countries attended the Programme.

Study Visits: During the period from 1 January to 31 March 2013, Study Visits were organized for: (i)11-member Delegation of the Standing Committee of Chairpersons of the Gauteng Provincial Legislature of the Republic of South Africa, from 21 to 23 January 2013; (ii) 16 Australian citizens on 11 February 2013; (iii) 28 participants from various countries attending a capacity building programme at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, on 1 March 2013.

Besides, 29 other Study Visits (National) were conducted for the students, teachers and officials of various schools, and organizations in India.

Appreciation Courses: Appreciation Courses in Parliamentary Processes

and Procedures were organized for the following participants: (i) 42 Probationers of the Indian Railway Service of Electrical Engineers, from 30 January to 1 February 2013; (ii) 29 Probationers of the Indian Statistical Service, from 30 January to 1 February 2013; (iii) 25 Probationers of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, from 25 to 27 February 2013; (iv) 8 Probationers of the Indian Cost Accounts Service, from 25 to 27 February 2013; (v) 24 Probationers of the Indian Corporate Law Service, from 11 to 13 March 2013; (vi) 53 Probationers of the Central Accounts and Finance Services, from 11 to 13 March 2013; and (vii) 105 Probationers of the Indian Revenue Service, 18 to 22 March 2013.

Training Programme: A Training Programme in Legislative Drafting for 20 officers of State Governments and State Legislature Secretariats was organized from 14 to 24 January 2013.

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PRIVILEGE ISSUES

LOK SABHA

During the period 1 January to 31 March 2013, the Committee on Violation of Protocol Norms and Contemptuous Behaviour of Government Officers with Members of Lok Sabha held two sittings on 28 January and 11 February 2013, respectively. The Committee of Privileges held only one sitting on 6 February 2013. No sitting of the Committee on Ethics was held. No reports were presented by the Committee on Violation of Protocol Norms and Contemptuous Behaviour of Government Officers with Members of Lok Sabha and the Committee on Ethics. The Committee of Privileges presented one report during the period.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

The Committee of Privileges laid its Third Report on the Table of Lok Sabha on 26 February 2013, regarding casting aspersions on and imputing motives to the decision of the Speaker, Lok Sabha by 'The Statesman' an English daily in its editorial captioned "Right to Resign-Speaker's action unconstitutional" published on 24 November 2011.

The Committee observed that even a cursory reading of the impugned article would show that not only aspersions were cast upon the Speaker of Lok Sabha, but partisan motives were also imputed to her and the said editorial was neither a fair comment nor a reasonable criticism.

The Committee was not convinced by the plea taken by Shri Ravindra Kumar that since parliamentary privileges have not been codified, it becomes very difficult for an Editor to judge as to what would amount to breach of privilege or contempt of the House.

While upholding the freedom of the Press, its role and importance in a democratic polity, the Committee observed that every freedom carries with it an obligation and it is primarily for the Press itself to determine what are its responsibilities and obligations *vis-a-vis* its freedom.

The Committee also observed Shri Ravindra Kumar should

in future refrain from such journalistic misdemeanors and exercise due restraint and be more careful while commenting on a Constitutional functionary like the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The Committee, however, recommended that in view of the unqualified regrets expressed by Shri Ravindra Kumar, Editor of 'The Statesman', no further action needed to be taken in the matter.

4

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

LOK SABHA

Observation from the Chair regarding condemnation of unparliamentary bahaviour: On 26 February 2013, the Speaker, Lok Sabha, Smt. Meira Kumar made the following observation:-

> "Honourable members, today when the Honourable Minister of Railways was presenting the Railway Budget, some members came into well of the House and shouted slogans against the Budget proposals. Shri R.K. Singh Patel even tore off some papers and threw them towards the Chair.
>
> This behaviour of Shri R.K. Singh Patel is not only unparliamentary, it also amounts to a contempt of the House and lowers the dignity of the House.
>
> This behaviour of the member is highly condemnable and I hope that there shall not be any recurrence of such incidents."

Instances when the Chair allowed members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House: On 26 February 2013, during discussion under Rule 193 on situation arising due to drought and hailstorms in various parts of country, the Chair permitted 16 members (Sarvashri Naranbhai Kachhadia, Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, S. Semmalai, K. Sugumar, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Haribhau Madhav Jawale, Jagdambika Pal, A.T. (Nana) Patil, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Sarvashri Ashok Argal, Manicka Tagore, Suresh Chanabasappa Angadi, and N. Peethambara Kurup) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 6 March 2013, during discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, the Chair permitted 58 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 7 March 2013, during discussion under Rule 193 on the plight of Tamils in Sri Lanka, the Chair permitted 10 members (Dr. Kirit P. Solanki, Sarvashri Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Suvendu Adhikari, S. Semmalai, Arjun Ram Meghwal, C. Sivasami, Smt. Davidson J. Helen, Sarvashri R. Thamaraiselvan, Rajendra Agrawal and Naranbhai Kachhadia) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On the same day, during combined discussion on the Government Resolution, the Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2012-13 and the Demand for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 15 members (Sarvashri Mohan Jena, Rudra Madhab Ray, Virender Kashyap, Smt. Kamla Devi Patle, Shri Makhansingh Solanki, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Advocate Ganeshrao Dudhgaonkar, Sarvashri Gajanan D. Babar, Sohan Potai, Vishnu Deo Sai, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Sarvashri Chandu Lal Sahu, P.K. Biju, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain and Ashok Kumar Rawat) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 8 March 2013, during combined discussion on the Government Resolution moved on 7 March 2013, the Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2012-13 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 17 members (Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, Dr. Ratna De Nag, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, Dr. Tushar A. Chaudhary, Sarvashri Ramsinh Rathwa, R. Thamaraiselvan, Ram Singh Kaswan, Sardar Sukhdev Singh Libra, Sarvashri Jeetendra Singh Bundela, P.D. Rai, N. Peethambara Kurup, Sanjay Dina Patil, Kamal Kishor, Sajjan Singh Verma, Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, Rakesh Sachan and Rayapati Sambasiva Rao) to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 11 March 2013, during combined discussion on the Government Resolution moved on 7 March 2013, the Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2012-13 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 72 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 12 March 2013, during combined discussion on the Government Resolution moved on 7 March 2013, the Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2012-13 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 18 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 13 March 2013, during combined discussion on Government Resolution moved on 7 March 2013, the Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways)

2012-13 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 7 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On the same day, during combined discussion on the Budget (General) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2012-13 and the Demand for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 7 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

On 14 March 2013, during combined discussion on the Budget (General) 2013-14, the Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2013-14, the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2012-13 and the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of Budget (General) 2010-11, the Chair permitted 78 members to lay their written speeches on the Table of the House.

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PARLIAMENTARY AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2013)

Events covered in this Feature are based primarily on reports appearing in the daily newspapers and, as such, the Lok Sabha Secretariat does not accept any responsibility for their accuracy, authenticity or veracity.

—Editor

INDIA

DEVELOPMENTS AT THE UNION

Budget Session of Parliament: The First Part of the Thirteenth Session of Fifteenth Lok Sabha and the Two Hundred and Twenty Eighth Session of the Rajya Sabha (the Budget Session of Parliament) commenced on 21 February 2013 with the Address by the President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee to members of both the Houses assembled together in the Central Hall of Parliament House. The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were adjourned for recess on 22 March 2013 till 22 April 2013, to enable the Departmentally-related Parliamentary Standing Committees to examine the Demands for Grants of various Ministries/ Departments assigned to them and submit their reports to the House.

Re-allocation of Portfolio: On 5 March 2013, Smt. Panabaka Lakshmi, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas was re-allocated as the Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles.

Withdrawal of DMK Support to the UPA Government: On 19 March 2013, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) President, Shri M. Karunanidhi announced party's decision to withdraw support to the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government.

Resignation of Five Union Ministers: On 21 March 2013, all the five DMK Ministers in the UPA Government namely Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Shri M. K. Alagiri; Minister of State for Finance, Shri S. S. Palanimanickam; Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare,

Shri S. Gandhiselvan; Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Shri S. Jagathrakshakan; and the Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri D. Nepoleon resigned from the Council of Ministers. The President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee accepted their resignations.

Shri Srikant Jena was given Independent Charge of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers as the Minister of State, in addition to Independent Charge of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation as the Minister of State.

Rajya Sabha Bye-elections: On 5 January 2013, Smt. Rajani Patil of the Indian National Congress (INC) was declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Maharashtra. Smt. Patil's term commenced on 10 January 2013.

On 7 February 2013, Shri K.C. Tyagi of the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] was declared elected to the Rajya Sabha from Bihar. Shri Tyagi's term commenced on same day.

Both the members took oath/affirmation on 21 February 2013.

Resignation of Rajya Sabha Members: Shri Upendra Kushwaha, JD(U) member from Bihar and Shri Thomas Sangma of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) from Meghalaya resigned from the Rajya Sabha on 4 January 2013 and 4 February 2013, respectively.

Resignation of Lok Sabha Members: Shri Virbhadra Singh and Shri Vitthalbhai Hansrajbhai Radadiya, both INC members of the Lok Sabha, resigned from the Mandi (Himachal Pradesh) and Porbandar (Gujarat) Lok Sabha constituencies on 1 January and 3 January 2013, respectively.

Death of Lok Sabha Members: On 24 January 2013, Shri Uma Shankar Singh, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) member from Maharajganj Lok Sabha constituency (Bihar) passed away.

On 1 March 2013, Shri Mukesh Bhairavdanji, an INC member from Banaskantha Lok Sabha constituency (Gujarat) passed away.

AROUND THE STATES

ASSAM

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Smt. Mandira Roy of the INC was declared elected from Algapur Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 24 February 2013.

BIHAR

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Smt. Manju Kumari of the Janata Dal (United) was declared elected from Kalyanpur Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 24 February 2013.

New Governor: On 9 March 2013, the Governor of Tripura, Dr. D.Y. Patil was transferred as the Governor of Bihar. He was sworn in on 22 March 2013.

JHARKHAND

JMM Withdrawal of Support: On 7 January 2013, the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) with 18 MLAs announced its decision to withdraw support to the BJP-led State Government.

Resignation of Chief Minister: On 8 January 2013, the Chief Minister Shri Arjun Munda submitted his resignation to the Governor, Shri Syed Ahmed.

Imposition of President's Rule: On 18 January 2013, the President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee imposed the President's rule in Jharkhand, following its approval by the Union Cabinet.

The Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha approved the imposition of President's Rule in the State on 26 February and 12 March 2013, respectively.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Resignation of Speaker: On 15 January 2013, the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly, Shri Mohammad Akbar Lone resigned from his post.

Reshuffle of Cabinet: On 15 January 2013, the Chief Minister, Shri Omar Abdullah dropped seven and inducted 10 new Ministers into his Council of Ministers.

The names of Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister, *Home, General Administration, Power Development, Information, Civil Aviation, Hospitality* and *Protocol, Estates* and all other departments not allocated to any other Minister; Sarvashri Tara Chand, Deputy Chief Minister, *School Education;* Abdul

* As on 7 March 2013

Rahim Rather, *Finance* and *Ladakh Affairs;* Peerzada Mohammad Sayeed, *Public Enterprises, Haj, Auqaf* and *Floriculture;* Ali Mohammad Sagar, *Rural Development* and *Panchayats;* Mian Altaf Ahmad, *Forest, Environment* and *Ecology;* Taj Mohi-Ud-Din, *Medical Education, Sports* and *Youth Services;* Nawang Rigzin Jora, *Urban Development* and *Urban Local Bodies;* Sham Lal Sharma, *PHE, Irrigation* and *Flood Control;* Ghulam Hassan Mir, *Agriculture Production;* Ms. Sakina Itoo, *Social Welfare, ARI* and *Trainings* and *Public Grievances;* Sarvashri Raman Bhalla, *Housing, Horticulture* and *Culture;* Akbar Lone, *Higher Education;* Choudhary Ramzan, *Consumer Affairs* and *Public Distribution* and *Transport;* Ajay Sadhotra, *Planning* and *Development* and *Labour* and *Employment;* Ghulam Ahmad Mir, *Tourism;* Abdul Majid Wani, *R&B* and *Mechanical Engineering;* and Mir Saifullah, *Law, Justice* and *Parliamentary Affairs;*

The Ministers of State are: Shri Ajaz Ahmed Khan, *Minister of State Revenue, Relief* and *Rehabilitation (Independent Charge);* Dr. Manohar Lal Sharma, *Minister of State Fisheries, Cooperative, Printing* and *Stationery* and *Elections (Independent Charge), Minister of State Finance* and *Planning, Higher Education, Forests, Environment* and *Ecology, Labour* and *Transport;* Sarvashri Shabir Ahmed Khan, *Minister of State Health (Independent Charge);* Sajjad Ahmad Kitchloo, *Minister of State Industries* and *Commerce (Independent Charge), Minister of State for Home, R&B* and *Mechanical Engineering, Housing* and *Urban Development, Tourism* and *Culture;* Feroz Khan, *Minister of State Science* and *Technology* and *Information Technology (Independent Charge), Minister of State for Medical Education, School Education, Youth Services* and *Sports;* Nazir Ahmad Khan (Gurezi), *Minister of State Animal* and *Sheep Husbandry (Independent Charge)*, *Minister of State for PHE, Irrigation* and *Flood Control, Horticulture, Agriculture* and *Floriculture;* and Viqar Rasool, *Minister of State Technical Education (Independent Charge)*, *Minister of State for Law, Justice, Parliamentary Affairs, Rural Development* and *Panchayats, Social Welfare, Power, Hospitality* and *Protocol, Information* and *Consumer Affairs* and *Public Distribution.*

HIMACHAL PRADESH

INC MLA Suspended from Party: On 16 January 2013, the INC suspended from its party, Shri Ram Kumar Chaudhary, an MLA elected from the Doon constituency in Solan district.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 2 March 2013, the Chief Minister, Shri Virbhadra Singh inducted Shri Anil Sharma as the Cabinet Minister with the portfolios of Panchayati Raj, Rural Development and Animal Husbandry.

KARNATAKA

Resignation of Ministers: On 25 January 2013, the Governor, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj accepted the resignations of Public Works Minister, Shri C.M. Udasi and Energy Minister, Smt. Shobha Karandlaje from the Council of Ministers.

KERALA

New Governor: On 9 March 2013, Shri Nikhil Kumar, the Governor of Nagaland was transferred as the Governor of Kerala. He was sworn in on 23 March 2013.

MAHARASHTRA

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Smt. Kupekar Sandhyadevi Krishnarao Desai of the NCP was declared elected from Chandgad Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 24 February 2013.

MEGHALAYA

Assembly Election Results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 23 February 2013. The results were announced on 28 February 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Total seats: 60; INC: 29; United Democratic Party: 8; Hill State People's Democratic Party: 4; NCP: 2; National People's Party: 2; and Others: 15.

Chief Minister Sworn in: On 5 March 2013, Shri Mukul Sangma was sworn in as the Chief Minister for a second consecutive term in office.

Expansion of Cabinet: On 12 March 2013, the Chief Minister expanded his Cabinet by inducting 11 Ministers into his Council of Ministers.

The names of Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister, *Commerce* and *Industries, Finance, Mining* and *Geology, Personnel* and *A.R., Planning*, *Tourism,* other portfolios which were not allotted to any other Ministers; Sarvashri Rowell Lyngdoh, Deputy Chief Minister, *Administrative Reforms*, *Elections, Home (Passport), Law, Soil* and *Water Conservation*, *Water Resources;* Roytre Christopher Laloo, Deputy Chief Minister, *School Education* and *Literacy, Higher* and *Technical Education, Re-organization Public Health*

* As on 4 February 2013

Engineering, *Revenue* and *Disaster Management;* H. Donkupar R. Lyngdoh, *Cooperation, District Council Affairs, General Administration, Transport;* Prestone Tynsong, *Border Areas Development, Community* and *Rural Development, Forests* and *Environment, Parliamentary Affairs;* Smt. Deborah C. Marak, *Animal Husbandry* and *Veterinary, Printing* and *Stationery, Secretariat Administration, Social Welfare;* Shri Alexander Laloo Hek, *Registration* and *Stamps, Health* and *Family Welfare, Information* and *Public Relations, Information Technology;* Smt. Roshan Warjri, *PWD (Buildings), Home (Jails), Home (Police);* Sarvashri Zenith M. Sangma, *Excise, Housing, Sericulture* and *Weaving, Sports* and *Youth Affairs;* Mazel Ampareen Lyngdoh, *Municipal Administration, Labour, Urban Affairs;* Clement Marak, *Arts* and *Culture, Food Civil Supplies* and *Consumer Affairs, Power;* and Sniawbhalang Dhar, *PWD (Roads), Home (Civil Defence* and *Home Guards), Legal Metrology.*

MIZORAM

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Dr. Ngurdingliana of the INC was declared elected from Chalfilh Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 23 February 2013.

NAGALAND

Resignation of Minister: On 19 February 2013, the Home Minister, Shri Imkong L. Imchen resigned from the ruling Naga People's Front (NPF) Government.

Assembly Election Results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 23 February 2013. The results were announced on 28 February 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Total seats: 60; Results declared: 59 seats; NPF: 38; INC: 8; NCP: 4; Bharatiya Janata Party: 1; JD(U): 1; and Others: 7.

Chief Minister Sworn in: On 5 March 2013, Shri Neiphiu Rio of the NPF was sworn in as the Chief Minister for a third consecutive term. Along with him, 11 other Cabinet Ministers also took oath of office.

The names of Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Neiphiu Rio, Chief Minister, *Finance, Personnel* and *Administrative Reforms* and any other portfolio(s) not allotted to any Ministers; Sarvashri Noke Konyak, *Social Welfare;* T.R. Zeliang, *Planning* and *Co-ordination, Evaluation, Geology* and *Mining;* G. Kaito Aye, *Home*

* As on 6 March 2013

(Political, Police, General Administration, Secretariat Administration); Imkong L. Imchen, *Health* and *Family Welfare;* Kuzholuzo Nienu, *Roads* and *Bridges, Parliamentary Affairs;* Kiyanilie Peseyie, *Public Health Engineering;* Y. Patton, *Forest, Border Affairs;* C.M. Chang, *School Education;* E.E. Pangteang, *Tourism, Art* and *Culture, Election;* S. Pangnyu, *Industries* and *Commerce;* and Merentoshi R. Jamir, *Youth Resources* and *Sports, Labour* and *Employment.*

New Governor: On 9 March 2013, Shri Ashwani Kumar was appointed as the Governor of Nagaland. He was sworn in on 21 March 2013.

ODISHA

New Governor: On 9 March 2013, Shri S.C. Jamir was appointed as the Governor of Odisha. He was sworn in on 21 March 2013.

Resignation of Minister: On 15 March 2013, the Minister for Law, Housing and Urban Development, Shri Raghunath Mohanty resigned from the Council of Ministers.

PUNJAB

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Shri Joginder Pal Jain of the Siromani Akali Dal was declared elected from Moga Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 23 February 2013.

TAMIL NADU

Expansion of Cabinet: On 27 February 2013, the Chief Minister, Kumari J. Jayalalithaa dropped the Minister for Tourism, Shri Gokula Indra, the Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri V.S. Vijay and the Minister for School Education, Shri N.R. Sivapathy from the Council of Ministers.

The Chief Minister inducted Shri Vaigai Chelvan, *School Education, Archaeology, Sports* and *Youth Welfare, Tamil Language* and *Tamil Culture;* Shri T.P. Poonatchi, *Khadi* and *Village Industries;* and Shri K.C. Veeramani, *Health* and *Family Welfare* into her Council of Ministers.

She also reshuffled portfolios of some Ministers. Shri P. Chendur Pandian, Minister for Khadi and Village, was re-designated as Minister for Tourism. The portfolios of Law, Courts and Prisons, Personnel and Administrative Reforms and Prevention of Corruption, held by Shri Sivapathi, were given to the Municipal Administration and Rural Development Minister Shri K.P. Munuswamy as additional charge.

TRIPURA

Assembly Election Results: Elections to the State Legislative Assembly were held on 14 February 2013. The results were announced on 28 February 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Total seats: 60; Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)]: 49; INC: 10; and Communist Party of India: 1.

Chief Minister Sworn in: On 6 March 2013, Shri Manik Sarkar of the CPI(M) was sworn in as the Chief Minister for the fourth consecutive term. Along with him, 11 Cabinet Ministers were also sworn in.

The names of Council of Ministers with their portfolios is as follows*: Shri Manik Sarkar, Chief Minister, *Home (excluding Jail* and *Fire Services), Planning* and *Co-ordination, GA (Excluding Printing* and *Stationary)* and Other Departments not allocated to any Minister; Sarvashri Aghore Debbarma, *Agriculture, Tribal Welfare (Excluding TRP, PTG)* and *Animal Resource Development;* Badal Choudhury, *Finance, Revenue* and *Public Works (Excluding Drinking Water* and *Sanitation);* Tapan Chakraborty, *School Education, Health* and *Family Welfare* and *Law;* Manik Dey, *Power, Urban Development, Rural Development (Panchayat)* and *Transport;* Jitendra Chowdhury, *Rural Development (Excluding Panchayat), Forest* and *Industries* and *Commerce (Including Information Technology);* Khagendra Jamatia, *Co-operation, Fisheries* and *Home (Fire Service);* Manindra Reang, *Tribal Welfare (TRP* and *PTG), Home (Jail)* and *GA (Printing* and *Stationary);* Smt. Bijita Nath, *Social Welfare* and *Social Education, Welfare of OBC* and *Science, Technology* and *Environment;* Sarvashri Sahid Choudhuri, *Minority Development, Labour* and *Education (Sports* and *Youth Affairs);* Bhanu Lal Saha, *Higher Education, Food, Civil Supplies* and *Consumers Affairs, Information* and *Cultural Affairs* and *Election;* and Ratan Bhowmik, *Welfare of Scheduled Casts, Public Works (Drinking Water* and *Sanitation)* and *Tourism.*

New Governor: On 9 March 2013, the Governor of Bihar, Shri Devanand Konwar was transferred as the Governor of Tripura. He was sworn in on 25 March 2013.

UTTAR PRADESH

Expansion of Cabinet: On 7 February 2013, the Chief Minister, Shri Akhilesh Yadav expanded his Council of Ministers by inducting 12 Ministers—one of Cabinet rank, one Minister of State with independent charge and 10 Ministers of State. Shri Rajendra Chaudhary was made

* As on 18 March 2013

the Cabinet Minister while Shri Vijay Kumar Mishra was inducted as the Minister of State (Independent Charge). The Ministers of State are: Sarvashri Ram Murti Singh Verma, Vijay Bahadur Pal, Ashok Kumar Shakya, Rama Sakal Gujjar, Manoj Kumar Pandey, Gayatri Prasad Prajapati, Pawan Pandey, Yogesh Pratap Singh and Nitin Agarwal.

Assembly Bye-election Result: On 28 February 2013, Shri Ashutosh Upadhyay of the Samajwadi Party was declared elected from Bhatpar Rani Assembly constituency, bye-election to which was held on 23 February 2013.

Resignation of Minister: On 3 March 2013, the Food and Civil Supplies Minister, Shri Raghuraj Pratap Singh resigned from the Council of Ministers.

WEST BENGAL

Assembly Bye-election Results: The bye-elections to three Assembly constituencies were held on 23 February 2013. The results were announced on 28 February 2013. The winners are: Sarvashri Krishnendu Narayan Chowdhury, All India Trinamool Congress (AITC), (English Bazar); Dipak Chatterjee, All India Forward Bloc, (Nalhari); and Rabiul Alam Chowdhury, INC, (Rejinagar).

MLA Joins AITC: On 23 March 2013, an Independent MLA from Kalchini Assembly constituency in Jalpaiguri district, Shri Wilson Champramary joined the AITC.

EVENTS ABROAD

BANGLADESH

Death of President: On 20 March 2013, the President, Mr. Zillur Rahman died in a hospital in Singapore.

BULGARIA

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 20 February 2013, the Prime Minister, Mr. Boiko Borisov resigned from the post.

New Prime Minister: On 12 March 2013, the President, Mr. Rosen Plevneliev appointed Mr. Marin Raykov as the new Prime Minister.

BURKINA FASO

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 127-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 2 December 2012. The party

position following the elections is as follows: Congress for Democracy and Progress: 70; Union for Progress and Change: 19; Alliance for Democracy and Federation-African Democratic Rally: 18; Union for Rebirth/Sankarist Movement: 4; Party for Democracy and Socialism: 2; Union for the Republic: 5; Convention for Democratic Forces of Burkina: 3; Organisation for Democracy and Labour: 1; Union for Democracy and Development: 1; The Other Burkina Faso: 1; Rally for the Development of Burkina: 1; Rally for the Democracy and Socialism: 1; and Convention for the Progress of Burkina: 1.

Appointment of Prime Minister: On 31 December 2012, Mr. Luc Adolphe Tiao was re-appointed as the new Prime Minister.

CHAD

New Prime Minister: On 21 January 2013, the President, Mr. Idriss Deby appointed Mr. Joseph Djimrangar Dadnadji as the new Prime Minister.

CHINA

New President: On 14 March 2013, Mr. Xi Jinping was appointed as the President.

New Prime Minister: On 15 March 2013, Mr. Li Keqiang was appointed as the Prime Minister.

CUBA

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 614-seat National Assembly of People's Power were held on 3 February 2013. The Communist Party secured all the seats.

President Re-elected: On 25 February 2013, the incumbent President Mr. Raul Castro was re-elected for a second five-year term.

CYPRUS

Election of President: Mr. Nicos Anastasiades was elected as the President in the second round runoff of presidential elections held on 24 February 2013.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Election of President: On 27 January 2013, the Prime Minister, Mr. Milos Zeman was declared elected as the President in the first directly elected Presidential elections.

ECUADOR

President Re-elected: The incumbent President, Mr. Rafael Correa was re-elected as the President, elections to which were held on 17 February 2013.

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 131-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 17 February 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Movimiento Alianza PAIS: 100; Creating Opportunities: 11; Social Christian Party: 6; January 21 Patriotic Society Party: 5; Plurinational Unity of the Lefts: 5; Ecuadorian Roldosist Party: 1; SUMA: 1; Partido Avanza: 5; and Independents and Regionalists: 3.

GHANA

Election of President: Mr. John Dramani Mahama was elected as the President in the elections held to the office of President on 7 December 2012. He was sworn in on 7 January 2013.

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 275-seat National Assembly (the unicameral legislature) were held on 2 December 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: National Democratic Congress: 148; New Patriotic Party: 123; People's National Convention: 1; and Independents: 3.

ISRAEL

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 150-seat *Knesset* (the unicameral legislature) were held on 22 January 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Likud Yisrael Beiteinu: 31; Yesh Atid: 19; Labour Party: 15; The Jewish Home: 12; Shas: 11; United Torah Judaism: 7; Hatnuah: 6; Meretz: 6; United Arab List: 4; Hadash: 4; Balad: 3; and Kadima: 2.

ITALY

Legislative Elections: The Elections to the 630-seat Chamber of Deputies and 315-seat Senate were held on 24 and 25 February 2013.

The party position following the elections to 630-seat Chamber of Deputies is as follows: Italy Common Good: 345; Center-right coalition: 125; Five Star Movement: 109; With Monti for Italy: 47; Associative Movement Italians Abroad: 2; South American Union Italian Emigrants: 1; and Aosta Valley List/Edelweiss Aosta Valley: 1.

The party position following the elections to 315-seat Senate is as

follows: Italy Common Good: 123; Center-right coalition: 117; Five Star Movement: 54; With Monti for Italy: 19; Associative Movement Italians Abroad: 1; and Aosta Valley List/Union Valdotaine: 1.

JAPAN

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 480-seat House of Representatives (the Lower chamber of the *Diet*—the bicameral legislature) were held on 16 December 2012. The party position following the elections is as follows: Liberal Democratic: 294; Democratic Party of Japan: 57; Japan Restoration Party: 54; New Komeito: 31; Your Party: 18; Tomorrow Party of Japan: 9; Japanese Communist Party: 8; Social Democratic Party: 2; New Party Daichi: 1; People's New Party: 1; and Independents: 5.

New Prime Minister: On 26 December 2012, Mr. Shinzo Abe was sworn in as the Prime Minister.

JORDAN

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 150-seat House of Representatives (the Lower chamber of the bicameral legislature) were held on 23 January 2013. The party position following the elections is as follows: Muslim Centre Party: 3; Stronger Jordan: 2; The Homeland: 2; National Union Party: 2; National Current Party: 1; Salvation: 1; Labour and Professionalism: 1; Cooperation: 1; Dignity: 1; Unified Front: 1; National Unity: 1; Construction: 1; The People: 1; People of Determination: 1; Free Voice: 1; Voice of the Nation: 1; National Labour: 1; al-Quds: 1; al-Bayareq: 1; The Dawn: 1; Shabab al-Wifaq: 1; Citizenship: 1; and Independents: 123.

KENYA

New President: Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta was declared elected as the President in the elections held to the post on 9 March 2013.

MALI

New Prime Minister: On 11 December 2012, the Prime Minister, Mr. Cheick Modibo Diarra resigned from his post. The President, Mr. Dioncounda Traore appointed Mr. Django Cissoko as the new Prime Minister.

MALTA

Legislative Elections: Elections to the 69-seat House of Representatives (the unicameral legislature) were held on 9 March 2013. The Labour Party won 39 seats while Nationalist Party secured 30 seats.

MEXICO

President Sworn in: On 1 December 2012, Mr. Enrique Pena Nieto was sworn in as the country's 57th President.

NEPAL

Care Taker Prime Minister: On 14 March 2013, Chief Justice, Mr. Khila Raj Regmi was sworn in by the President as the head of interim Government mandated to hold elections for a new Constituent Assembly by 21 June 2013.

PAKISTAN

Care Taker Prime Minister: On 24 March 2013, Mr. Mir Hazar Khan Khosa, a retired Judge, was appointed as the caretaker Prime Minister till a new National Assembly is elected by mid-May. His name was finalised by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

SINGAPORE

Resignation of Speaker: On 8 January 2013, the Speaker of the Parliament, Mr. Michael Palmer resigned from his post.

New Speaker: On 14 January 2013, Ms. Halimah Yacob was elected as the Speaker of the Parliament.

SLOVENIA

New President: On 2 December 2012, Mr. Borut Pahor was declared elected as the President. He was sworn in on 22 December 2012.

SOUTH KOREA

New President: Ms. Park Geun Hye was declared elected as the President in the elections held to the post on 19 December 2012. Ms. Hye is the country's first female President.

SWITZERLAND

New President: On 1 January 2013, Mr. Ueli Maurer was sworn in as the new President.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

President Sworn in: On 20 January 2013, the incumbent President, Mr. Barak H. Obama was sworn in as the President for a second four-year term in office.

VANUATU

Resignation of Prime Minister: On 20 March 2013, the Prime Minister, Mr. Sato Kilman resigned from his post.

VATICAN CITY

Pope to Step Down: On 11 February 2013, Pope Benedict XVI, known as Cardinal Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger before he assumed the pontifical office on 19 April 2005, announced his resignation.

New Pope: On 13 March 2013, Mr. Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Argentina was elected as the new Pope. He would take the name Francis I.

VENEZUELA

Death of President: On 7 March 2013, the President, Mr. Hugo Chavez passed away following a prolonged illness.

6

SESSIONAL REVIEW

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

THIRTEENTH SESSION

The Thirteenth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha commenced on 21 February 2013 and was adjourned on 22 March 2013 to meet again on 22 April 2013. This enabled the Departmentally Related Standing Committees to examine the Demands for Grants of the Ministries and Departments and report back to the House. The Session was adjourned *sine-die* on 8 May 2013. In all, there were 32 sittings held during the Session.

A resume of some of the important discussions held and other business transacted during the period 21 February 2013 to 22 March 2013* is given below:

STATEMENTS / DISCUSSIONS

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address: Moving the Motion on 27 February 2013**,** Shri P.C. Chacko said that 70 per cent of India's population is less than 35 years of age. By 2020, it is anticipated that the average age of the country's population will be 29 years. So, India is a young country in every sense of the expression. He added that according to the President of India, Indian youth needs more opportunities, greater choices, better infrastructure and enhanced safety and security. Shri Chacko said that the President of India has also enumerated the anxieties faced by the country. The greatest anxiety-expressed by the President is the slowing down of the economic growth. From 1991 onwards, India's destiny was decided by liberal economic policies. UPA-I and UPA-II are responsible for raising the growth rate. During the Eleventh Plan period, the country achieved an average growth rate of eight per cent. The reason for the present slowing down is that India

* Sessional Review covering the rest of the period will be carried in the September 2013 issue of *JPI* (Vol.LIX, No.3). Complete details regarding Question Hour and Obituary References will also be carried in the said issue.

cannot remain isolated in a global world. Europe is facing a recession. All the emerging economies are slowing down.

In the midst of a crisis situation, the President has enumerated many of the flagship programmes which are being implemented by the Government. India is implementing the most important poverty eradication programme under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The country has also implemented programmes like Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewable Mission (JNNURM), Indira Gandhi Awas Yojana (IAY), Rajiv Gandhi Awas Yojana to take care of the housing needs of the people and other welfare schemes like – Rural Water Supply Scheme, Total Sanitation Scheme, Old Age Pension Scheme, etc. Under the Mid-day-Meal Scheme, eleven crore children are being fed. The President's Address also mentioned that polio has been completely eradicated from the face of India. With regard to infrastructure development, the Government has constituted a Cabinet Committee. India is a destination for investment from the whole world. The President's Speech gives an optimistic and realistic picture of this country. The speech is a roadmap for the UPA Government to take this country to a better tomorrow.

Taking Part in the discussion*, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav (SP) stated that *Bharat Bandh* was organized by 11 trade unions, while the President was delivering his Address and on the same day Hyderabad also witnessed bomb explosions. There is terrorism, anarchy, oppression

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* Those who participated in the discussion were Sarvashri Rajnath Singh, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Prataprao Ganpatrao Jadhao, Jitendra Singh Bundela, Ganesh Singh, Charles Dias, M. Krishnaswamy, Haribhau Jawale, N. Peethambara Kurup, Ratan Singh, Rajendra Agrawal, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, S. Semmalai, C. Rajendran, K. Sugumar, P.L. Punia, Ram Singh Kaswan, Sharad Yadav, H.D. Devegowda, T.K.S. Elangovan, O.S. Manian, C. Sivasami, A.K.S. Vijayan, S.S. Ramasubbu, Adhi Sankar, E.G. Sugavanam, N. Kristappa, N.S.V. Chitthan, A.T. Nana Patil, Sanjay Singh Chauhan, Prabodh Panda, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Murari Lal Singh, A. Sampath, R. Thamaraiselvan, Nripendra Nath Roy, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Sameer Bhujbal, Satpal Maharaj, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Kameshwar Baitha, Bishnu Pada Ray, Ajay Kumar, Chandu Lal Sahu, Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Sukhdev Singh, Pashupati Nath Singh, Naveen Jindal, Virender Kashyap, Manicka Tagore, Gorakhnath Pandey, Virendra Kumar, Kunvarjibhai Mohanbhai Bavalia, Rakesh Sachan, Ramkishun, Ghanshyam Anuragi, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Santosh Chowdhary. Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, SK. Saidul Haque, Yogi Aditya Nath, Mohammed E.T. Basheer, Prof. Saugata Roy, Dr. Girija Vyas, Dr. Baliram, Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, Dr. Chinta Mohan, Dr. Ratna De, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Bhola Singh, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Smt. Supriya Sule, Smt. Rama Devi, Smt. Mala Rajya Laxmi Shah, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Smt. Shruti Choudhary, Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Smt. J. Helen Davidson, Smt. Putul Kumari and Km. Saroj Pandey.

and terror in the country. The entire country is panic-stricken. This reflects the true picture of the country. Farmers, students and workers face problems. There is unemployment. Inflation has come to stay in our lives. The Government is not willing to tackle inflation.

The MGNREGA scheme should be discontinued and States should be provided funds separately for their development. Funds are being wasted in MGNREGA. The growth rate during the 11th Five Year Plan was 8 per cent. But it has come down to 5 or 5.5 per cent now.

The member said that the farmers are committing suicide. The Prime Minister of India has enjoyed a long span of nine years of governance. Therefore, he must do something outstanding for the welfare of farmers, weavers, labourers, Muslims and unemployed persons. Priority should be given to cottage industry which would contribute to the development of the country.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that all the scheduled languages should be treated as official languages, not Hindi alone. India was facing innumerable problems on all fronts. There was monthly hike in the prices of petrol and diesel. There is rise in the prices of essential commodities. There is threat to internal security and there is terrorism from across the border. There are inter-State river water disputes. Above all, there is corruption at high levels. The President has not mentioned any of these problems. He also added that the Centre is giving step-motherly treatment to the States and asserted that the Central Government has not taken any steps to engage Sri Lankan Government in solving the problem of the Tamil people in that country.

Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala (SAD) observed that the national growth rate was supposed to be 8 per cent but it has now fallen down to 5 per cent. Since 2009, a plethora of scams have rocked this nation. Agriculture is the mainstay of the Indian economy but it is no longer a remunerative profession. The farmer can no longer recover his input-cost. The Government wants to get the Food Security Bill passed in the Parliament but the plight of the farmer is grim.

Dr. Ajnala further said that although the Government claims that it will provide subsidy to the people on the basis of *Aadhaar* Card, there is rampant corruption in the making of '*Aadhaar* cards'. He lamented that the President's Address does not mention any effort being made by the Centre to check the menace of ever-increasing population.

Shri Basu Deb Acharia (CPI-M) said that millions of workers were on strike on 21 February, the day on which the Presidential Address

was delivered. For the first time after Independence, all the workers unions from the organized as well as unorganized sector struck work cutting across party lines. He complained that the Prime Minister does not have time to meet the representatives of the workers but has ample time to discuss issues with the representatives of the corporate sector.

He complained that though the UPA-II Government promised Food Security Bill within 100 days of its coronation, the Bill has not seen the light of the day. He demanded that the Public Distribution system should be made universal and schemes like Direct Cash Transfer should be done away with.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMEIM) lamented that there is no minority representation in the Departments of Scientific and Industrial Research; Land Reforms; Law and Justice; Social Justice and Empowerment; and in the Department of Food and Public Distribution. In the Ministry of Defence in 2010-11, 800 recruitments were made and only 50 people belonging to minorities were recruited. He claimed that Muslims are not getting their due share in MGNREGA. Only about three per cent of Muslims hold job cards and two per hundred workers are Muslims. Shri Owaisi appealed to the Government to open a diplomatic channel with the Taliban.

Shri Thol Thirumaavalavan (Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Kazhagam) pointed out that the President's Address did not announce any scheme for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Shri Thol urged the Union Government to give up capital punishment and release the four persons from Tamil Nadu awaiting death in connection with the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. The Government should ensure that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are safe and should prevent violence against them.

Shri Badruddin Ajmal (All India United Democratic Front) said that though many good schemes have been launched by the Government, implementation is tardy.

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (Bodoland Peoples Front) congratulated the President for his promise to introduce a bill to punish persons indulging in crimes against women and girls. He requested the Government to allocate one lakh crore rupees to ensure education as well as all round development of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. He also requested the Prime Minister to provide at least one thousand crore for the development of the Bodoland region.

Replying to the discussion, on 6 March 2013, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh admitted that the Indian economy faced a difficult situation in the past one year. He emphasized that the country's aim is to achieve an average GDP growth of 8 per cent during the 12th Plan, agricultural growth of 4 per cent and focus will be on the inclusive growth. During the UPA period, poverty declined at an average annual rate of two per cent per annum. In the preceding ten years, the decline was not more than 0.8 per cent. The so-called BIMARU States have also done much better in the UPA period. In terms of education and skill development also, the achievements of the UPA are notable. The Right to Education Act is a major landmark of the UPA. The National Rural Health Mission has made a very important start. The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana is a huge UPA initiative and it provides in-patient cover to 3.4 crore families. The infant mortality rate has fallen from 58 to 44.

The Prime Minister mentioned the *Nirbhaya Fund* of Rs.1,000 crore announced by the Finance Minister. On the Sachar Committee Report, he said that the Government has accepted 72 of the 76 recommendations made by the Committee. On the Tamil problem in Sri Lanka, he stated that the Government will make efforts to find a durable settlement to the Tamil problem. The Prime Minister also touched upon the relation with Pakistan, China and Afghanistan.

All the amendments moved were negatived. The motion was adopted.

The Budget (Railways)–2013-14: Presenting the Railway Budget for the year 2013-2014 on 26 February 2013, the Minister of Railways, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal said that the Indian Railways is a vital organisation, playing an unparalleled role in integrating the nation. From Baramulla in the North to Kanyakumari in the South, Dwarka in the West to Ledo in the East, trains of *Bhartiya Rail* are always on the move, carrying people and material, creating opportunities and fostering development. It is the single most important catalyst in the growth story of India. The Minister said that the number of passenger trains has increased from 8,897 in 2001-02 to 12,335 in 2011-12. Yet, the losses on these operations continue to mount increasing from Rs.4,955 crore in 2001-02 to Rs.22,500 crore in 2011-12. It is estimated to be Rs.24,600 crore in 2012-13. This has also resulted in deterioration of services. Mounting scarcity of resources continues to compound the problem. In fact, many of the projects that can help the railways in debottlenecking and decongesting its over-saturated network are not getting funded in a time bound manner. During the 11th Plan, Railways could meet the target of new lines and electrification but fell short of the targets for doubling and gauge conversion, achieving only 2,758 km and

5,321 km respectively. Considering the vastness of our country, and taking into account large areas still aspiring for rail connectivity, the targets need to be much higher and the rail network has to be expanded at a much faster rate than has been possible till now.

Rail passengers deserve safe and comfortable travel. Safety is a necessary mandate for running trains. With the untiring endeavour of the railway family to address human failure and technical deficiencies, there has been a significant reduction in the incidence of rail accidents. Even though the volume of passenger and freight traffic increased manifold, the number of consequential train accidents per million train kilometre has decreased from 0.41 in 2003-04 to 0.13 at the end of 2011-12. The Minister said that efforts will be made to work towards a zero accident situation.

Some measures taken to curb malpractices in reserved tickets including *Tatkal* are mandatory carrying of ID cards by passengers with reserved tickets; rigorous drive leading to prosecution of more than 1800 touts in the current year; in case of *tatkal*, reduction of advance reservation period to one day, issue of tickets only on production of ID proof at PRS counters, issue of only one *tatkal* ticket per train per day to web service agents; denial of access to agents to internet booking between 0800 to 1000 hrs.

The Minister announced that a Centralised Catering Services Monitoring Cell has started functioning *w.e.f.* 18 January 2013 to facilitate redressal of complaints and suggestions. The Minister also proposed to run an educational tourist train called '*Azadi Express'* to enable India's youth to travel to important places connected with the freedom movement.

The Minister claimed that the Indian Railways is set to achieve the milestone of entering the one Billion Tonne Select Club, joining the Chinese, Russian and the US Railways. Land acquisition for nearly 2,800 km of the eastern and western freight corridors is almost complete. The first major civil construction contract on the 343 km Kanpur-Khurja section of the eastern corridor has already been awarded and by the end of 2013-14, construction contract to cover up to 1,500 km on the two corridors would be awarded and the work would be started. Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Studies (PETS) have been taken up on four future Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC).

The Minister said that providing need based rail connectivity to border areas is uppermost on Indian Railways' agenda. The National project of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla and other projects of strategic importance will be taken up on top priority. For the first time, the State

of Arunachal has been brought into the rail network and the Harmuti-Naharlagun line will be commissioned soon. Work on the new line railway project to connect Manipur is in full swing. Gauge conversion work on the Lumding-Silchar and Rangia-Murkongselek line are also being fast-tracked.

The Minister said that an ambitious target of Rs.1,00,000 crore has been set to attract investments through PPP route during the 12th Plan. The Elevated Rail Corridor in Mumbai, parts of the DFC, redevelopment of stations, power generation/energy saving projects, freight terminals are areas proposed for private investment during the 12th Plan period.

A target of Rs.1,000 crore each has been proposed for the Rail Land Development Authority and Indian Railway Station Development Corporation in 2013-14. The recently revamped participative policy enabling partnership with ports, large mines, industry and investors addresses the specific concerns of private investors. An investment of up to Rs.9,000 crore is expected under these projects including Rs.3,800 crore for port connectivity projects, Rs.4,000 crore for coal mine connectivity and Rs.800 crore for iron ore mines connectivity improvements.

Despite increase in costs and revision of energy charges, the provisions under ordinary working expenses has been retained at Budget Grant level of Rs.84,400 crore in Revised Estimate. With increase in appropriation to Pension Fund from Rs.18.500 crore to Rs.20,000 crore, necessitated by increase in pensionary benefits and number of pensioners, the net revenue is estimated to reduce by Rs.6,484 crore. The plan investment during the year has also been adjusted from Rs.60,100 crore to Rs.52,265 crore.

Subsequent increase in the rates of High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil in January 2013 itself has added Rs.3,300 crore to the fuel bill of Railways, taking away a substantial portion of the additional resources targeted. Further, in the light of deregulation of the HSD oil, Railways' finances need to be rationally insulated and to this end a mechanism to neutralize the impact of fuel prices on operating expenses is required to be put in place.

The Minister said that there are a number of charges which have not been revised for the last several years. These charges are in the form of compensation for cost actually incurred by railways in rendering relevant services. He proposed to effect marginal increase in some of these including supplementary charge for superfast trains, reservation fee, clerkage charge, cancellation charge and *tatkal* charge. However, he proposed to abolish the concept of enhanced reservation fee with a

view to simplify the fee structure, having already discontinued development charge in January 2013.

The Minister said that a target to complete 500 km of new lines has been set for the year 2013-14. 450 km of metre gauge/narrow gauge line (MG/NG lines) will be converted to broad gauge during 2013-14. The target for doubling has been increased to 750 km for 2013-14.

Initiating the discussion on 7 March 2013, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur (BJP) said that the Congress Party which has taken over the Railway Ministry after 15 years has increased rail fare by 21 per cent. Freight charges have been increased by 5.8 per cent. The prices of petrol and diesel are increasing every second month.

He wanted to know if the recommendations of the Sam Pitroda and Anil Kakodkar Committees regarding the levying of a safety cess has been accepted by the Government. He alleged that the quality of food provided in the trains is not worthy of human consumption. Items like pillows and blankets provided in the trains are not hygienic. Regarding tourism, Mr. Thakur alleged that though one lakh eighty thousand tourists visit Himachal Pradesh every year, the State finds no mention in the Hon'ble Minister's scheme of things.

Shri Prem Das Rai*, (SDF) complained that Sikkim is yet to be connected to the rest of India by rail. Work on the rail link from Sevoke

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Jagdambika Pal, Mohan Jena, Rudramadhab Ray, Virender Kashyap, Makansingh Solanki, Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar, Gajanan D. Babar, Sohan Potai, Dhananjay Singh, Vishnu Dev Sai, Dinesh Chandra Yadav, Virendra Kumar, Suvendu Adhikari, Baijayant Panda, Chandrakant Khaire, Chandu Lal Sahu, Manikrao Hodlya Gavit, P.K. Biju, Ashok Kumar Rawat, Ganesh Singh, Shripad Yesso Naik, Ramsinh Rathwa, R. Thamaraiselvan, Ram Singh Kaswan, Sukhdev Singh, Jitendra Singh Bundela, Sher Singh Ghubaya, N. Peethambara Kurup, Sanjay Dina Patil, Ajay Kumar, Kamal Kishor 'Commando', Sajjan Verma, Hansraj G. Ahir, Rakesh Sachan, Rayapati Sambasiva Rao, Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya, P. Karunakaran, Bhausaheb Rajaram Wakchaure, Ramashankar Rajbhar, Rewati Raman Singh, Pralhad Joshi, Radha Mohan Singh, H.D Devegowda, P.T. Thomas, Kapil Muni Karwaria, Jagdish Sharma, M.B. Rajesh, Satpal Maharaj, Anand Prakash Paranjpe, Sanjay Singh Chauhan, E.G. Sugavanam, S.S. Ramasubbu, Harishchandra Chavan, C. Sivasami, C.R. Patil, Nalin Kumar Kateel, P. Lingam, Manohar Tirkey, Naveen Jindal, T.K.S. Elangovan, Nilesh Narayan Rane, Ashok Tanwar, S. Semmalai, Bhudeo Choudhary, Neeraj Shekhar, S.D. Shariq, O.S. Manian, Mohammed E.T. Basheer, Gorakhnath Pandey, Sameer Bhujbal, Haribhau Jawale, Kabindra Purkayastha, Prasanta Kumar Majumdar, Shailendra Kumar, Marotrao Sainuji Kowase, Danve Raosaheb Patil, Uday Singh, Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal, Kameshwar Baitha, R.K. Singh Patel, P.L. Punia, Shivarama Gouda, Devji M. Patel, M.K. Raghavan, Sanjay Nirupam, M. Krishnasswamy, R. Dhruvanarayana, Om Prakash Yadav, Anto Antony, Tufani Saroj, Ratan Singh, Arun Yadav, Sajjan Verma,

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in North Bengal to Rangpo in Sikkim which was commissioned in 2010, must be hastened. He proposed the creation of a special Mountain Unit within the Railways to oversee the execution of railway projects in the mountains.

While intervening in the debate, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways, Shri Adhir Chowdhury said that the losses suffered by the Railways are about Rs.25,000 crore and the burden of bringing the department out of the ICU is now on the shoulders of the Railway Minister. He appealed that everyone should whole-heartedly cooperate with him and give him some more time to organize things.

Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (Bahujan Samaj Party) congratulated the Minister for linking Mau, which is the most backward area of Purvanchal to Delhi directly. He also requested the Minister to run this train on a daily basis instead of twice a week.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) claimed that 80 per cent of goods are being transported through road network and that this goods traffic should be shifted to the Railways. Hence, a dedicated freight corridor should be constructed at the earliest across the country. He also said that the

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Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Narayan Singh Amlabe, Suresh Kashinath Taware, Ramesh Bais, Sanjay Dhotre, K. Sugumar, Kamlesh Paswan, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, Kunwarjibhai M. Bavalia, Bibhu Prasad Tarai, Manicka Tagore, Nityanand Pradhan, K.C. Singh 'Baba', Rakesh Singh, Bhartruhari Mahtab, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Badri Ram Jakhar, Rajaram Pal, Nikhil Kumar Choudhary, Yashvir Singh, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Bishnu Pada Ray, A.T. Nana Patil, Ramen Deka, Prabodh Panda, Ashok Argal, Ramkishun, Sushil Kumar Singh, Bhakta Charan Das, Pulin Bihari Baske, Radhe Mohan Singh, Kadir Rana, Govind Prasad Mishra, Mithilesh Kumar, Mahendra Kumar Roy, Charles Dias, Nripendra Nath Roy, K. Bapi Raju, Madhu Goud Yaskhi, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Ghanshyam Anuragi, Anantha Venkatarami Reddy, Yashbant Laguri, Sidhant Mohapatra, Laxman Tudu, Sonawane Pratap Narayanrao, Rajendra Agrawal, Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Ramesh Vishwanath Katti, K. Jayaprakash Hegde, Vishwa Mohan Kumar, A. Sampath, Jagdish Singh Rana, Mansukhbhai D. Vasava, Madhusudan Yadav, Surendra Singh Nagar, Vilas Muttemwar, Harish Chaudhary, Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla, A.K.S. Vijayan, Datta Meghe, Sudarshan Bhagat, Prof. Saugata Roy, Yogi Aditya Nath, Sk. Saidul Haque, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, C. Rajendran, N.S.V. Chitthan, P. Vishwanathan, Dr. Prabha Kishor Taviad, Dr. P. Venugopal, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Dr. Monazir Hassan, Dr. Bhola Singh, Dr. Baliram, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Dr. Tarun Mandal, Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, Dr. Ratna De, Dr. Tushar Chaudharya, Dr. Padmasinha Bajirao Patil, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Smt. Seema Upadhyay, Smt. Kamla Devi Patle, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Smt. Annu Tandon, Smt. J. Helen Davidson, Smt. Ingrid Mcleod, Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia, Smt. Santosh Chowdhary, Smt. Supriya Sule, Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty, Smt. Usha Verma, Smt. Priya Dutt, Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Smt. Susmita Bauri, Smt. Sushila Saroj, Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat, Smt. Putul Kumari and Km. Saroj Pandey.

Railways can earn plenty of revenue by selling scraps. He strongly felt that any attempt to hand over the Indian Railways to the private sector will be catastrophic.

Shri A. Ganeshamurthi (MDMK) said that passenger fares have not been hiked in the budget but reservation and cancellation charges have been increased. The Chamrajnagar-Palani Railway line has now become Chamrajnagar-Erode Railway line with reduced distance. This is a long pending project. Original demand was for a railway line between Chamrajnagar and Palani. The work related to Palani and Erode has been announced suddenly.

Shri Nama Nageswara Rao (TDP) complained that the introduction of the fuel adjustment component is not a healthy practice, as the Railways should not be run as a business proposition. He also lamented that the Rail Budget has scaled down the targets with regard to the infrastructure expansion, doubling of rail lines and gauge conversion.

Shri Narahari Mahato (AIFB) said that the Railway Budget is an anti-people Budget. The survey of the railway line from Jhargram to Adra covering naxal hit areas proved to be viable. But it has not come up in the Budget. There is no railway line in five or six blocks including the Jangal Mahal area in this region. There is an urgent need for construction of an over bridge at Adra Railway Station.

Shri Jose K. Mani (KC-M) complained that in terms of new projects, fund allocation for on-going projects and new trains, Kerala has not got its legitimate share from the Ministry of Railways. The most important ongoing project is the doubling of railway lines. New trains can be started only after this project is completed. But, the allocated fund is very nominal. Only five crore rupees have been allotted while the total cost is expected to be 200 crore.

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (BPF) complained that not a single project has been announced for Kokrajhar, the headquarters of the Bodoland Territorial Area Districts, which is a scheduled tribal area created in 2003 under a provision of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India. All the projects and packages have been announced for comparatively more advanced States.

Replying to the debate on 13 March 2013, The Minister of Railways, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal thanked the 82 members who participated in the discussion on the Railway Budget, and the 124 members who laid their speeches on the Table of the House.

The Minister said that the Railways require about Rs. 10 lakh crore

keeping in view the Kakodar Committee and Sam Pitroda Committee reports and figures of the Planning Commission. The Railways have scarcity of resources and the sources of mobilization of resources are also limited. As regards increase in passenger fares, the increase is only 2 paisa per kilometer for the common man although the fares of AC classes have been increased a little more.

The Minister said that about 980 railway stations have been declared as model stations and work is already in progress on 632 stations. 60 more stations have been declared as model stations. A wagon factory at Warangal was announced in the Railway Budget for 2010-11. The work has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.152.26 crore. The Minister also announced a number of newline projects.

In the end, the Railway Minister requested the House to approve the Vote on Account Demands for Grants for 2013-14, Supplementary Demands for Grants 2012-13, Demands for Excess Grants for 2010-11 and also the related Appropriation Bills. He also requested the House to approve the proposal relating to the implementation of recommendations of the Railway Convention Committee on rates and other ancillary matters on dividend.

The Resolution was adopted. All the Demands for Grants (Railways) were voted in full. All the supplementary Demands for Grant (Railways) were voted in full. All the Demands for Excess Grants (Railways) were voted in full.

The Budget (General)–2013-2014: Presenting the Budget (General) for the year 2013-2014 on 28 February 2013, the Minister of Finance, Shri P. Chidambaram said that though global economic growth slowed from 3.9 per cent in 2011 to 3.2 per cent in 2012, there is no reason for gloom or pessimism. Only China and Indonesia have grown faster than India in 2012-13. In 2013-14, only China will grow faster than India. Shri Chidambaram said he was more worried about the Current Account Deficit (CAD), which continues to be high because of the excessive dependence on oil imports, the high volume of coal imports, India's passion for gold and the slowdown in exports.

The Finance Minister said that the overarching goal of the Budget for 2013-14 is to create opportunities for India's youth to acquire education and skills that will get them decent jobs or self-employment. The budget also has sub-plans for the welfare and progress of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It also addresses the problem of providing adequate funds for programmes that benefit women, children and the minorities.

The Finance Minister said that women belonging to the most vulnerable groups, including single women and widows, must be able to live with self-esteem and dignity. Young women face gender discrimination everywhere, especially at the work place. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been asked to design schemes that will address these concerns.

The Minister also announced the setting up of the "*Nirbhaya*" Fund, to which Government would contribute Rs.1,000 crore for the safety, security and empowerment of girl children and women. The Ministry of Women and Child Development will work on the scope and application of the fund.

For the Youth, the Finance Minister announced an allocation of Rs.1,000 crore for their skill development; and to give boost to their employability and productivity. The Minister proposed an allocation of Rs.3,511 crore to the Ministry of Minority Affairs. The Maulana Azad Education Foundation is the main vehicle to implement educational schemes and channelize funds to non-government organisations for the minorities. Its Corpus stands at Rs.750 crore. With the objective of raising its corpus fund to Rs.1,500 crore during the 12th Plan period, an additional amount of Rs.160 crore has been allocated.

The National Programme for the Health Care of Elderly is being implemented in 100 selected districts of 21 States. Eight regional geriatric centres are being funded for the development of dedicated geriatric departments and Rs.150 crore has been allocated for this programme. Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) which are being mainstreamed through the National Health Mission, received an allocation of Rs.1,069 crore.

In recognition of the needs of children, the Finance Minister proposed an allocation of Rs.17,700 crore in 2013-14, representing an increase of 11.7 per cent. The focus would be on early childhood and education. The Ministry of Rural Development, which steers a number of flagship Programmes including the Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, the Prime Minister Sadak Yojna and Indira Gandhi Awas Yojna would receive an allocation of 80,194 crore in 2013-14, marking an increase of 46 per cent.

The Minister announced an allocation of Rs.14,873 crore to the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). A significant portion of the outlay will be used to support the purchase of up to 10,000 buses, especially by the hill States.

The Finance Minister proposed an allocation of Rs.27,049 crore to the Ministry of Agriculture, of which agricultural research will account for Rs.3,415 crore. Pilot projects on nutri-farms for introducing crop varieties rich in micro-nutrients will be encouraged. The Minister also proposed to increase the agricultural credit target. He also informed that Rashtiya Krishi Vikas Yojna and National Food Security Mission will be fully provided for in the Budget. He further said that the National Livestock Mission will be launched in 2013-14 to attract investment and to enhance productivity, taking into account local agro-climatic conditions.

The National Electronics Policy 2012 is intended to promote manufacture of electronic goods in India. Appropriate incentives will be provided to semiconductor wafer fab manufacturing facilities, including zero customs duty for plant and machinery.

The private sector comprising households and corporates remains the main contributor to savings. The Minister announced a large number of measures in this area including the liberalization of the Rajiv Gandhi Equity Savings Scheme.

Two new major ports will be established in Sagar, West Bengal and in Andhra Pradesh. Five inland waterways have been declared as national waterways.

A new scheme with an outlay of Rs.500 crore called the Integrated Processing Development Scheme will be implemented in the 12th Plan to address the environmental concerns of the textile industry, including improving the effluent treatment infrastructure. An additional sum of 96 crore has been allocated in 2013-14 to the Ministry of Textiles for interest subvention.

A comprehensive and integrated social security package for the unorganised sector has also been announced. The package will include life-cum-disability cover, health cover, maternity assistance and pension benefits.

Clean and Green energy is a priority of the Government. In order to provide low cost finance in this sector, Government will provide low interest bearing funds from the National Clean Energy Fund (NCEF) to viable renewable energy projects. The Scheme will have a life span of five years.

Continuing the tradition of supporting institutions of excellence, the Minister of Finance announced a grant of Rs.100 crore each to Aligarh Muslim University, the Banaras Hindu University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Guwahati Campus and Indian National Trust for Art and

Cultural Heritage. The Minister also announced the setting up of the national Institute of Sports coaching at Patiala at the cost of Rs.250 crore.

The Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme has captured the imagination of the people, especially the poor. The Minister said that nearly 11 lakh beneficiaries have received the benefit directly into their bank accounts. He stated that the Government is doubling its efforts to ensure that the digitized beneficiary lists are available; that a bank account is opened for each beneficiary; and that the bank account is seeded with *Aadhaar* in due course.

The Finance Minister also mentioned the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) to which enhanced allocations have been made and modernization of Indian Post Offices. He also proposed to set-up the first Women's Bank as a Public Sector Bank with Rs.1,000 crore as initial capital for the benefit of women.

Budget Estimates for 2013-14: The estimate of Plan Expenditure is Rs.5,55,322 crore. As a proportion of total expenditure, it will be 33.3 per cent. Non-Plan Expenditure is estimated at Rs.11,09,975 crore. The fiscal deficit for the current year has been contained at 5.2 per cent and the fiscal deficit for the year 2013-14 is estimated at 4.8 percent. The revenue deficit for the current year will be 3.9 per cent and the revenue deficit for the year 2013-14 is estimated at 3.3 per cent.

Tax Proposals: The Minister said that in the formulation of tax proposals, his priorities were directed towards clarity in tax laws and establishment of a stable tax regime. He proposed to set up a Tax Administration Reform Commission to review the application of tax policies and tax laws and submit periodic reports that can be implemented to strengthen the capacity of the tax system. The Minister gave some relief to the tax payers in the first bracket of 2 lakh to 5 lakh. He also imposed a surcharge of 10 per cent on persons whose taxable income exceeds 1 crore per year.

Transactions in immovable properties are usually undervalued and underreported. With a view to improve the reporting of such transactions and the taxation of capital gains, the Minister proposed to apply TDS at the rate of one percent on the value of the transfer of immovable property, where the consideration exceeds 50 lakhs. However, agricultural land will be exempt. The Minister said that work of Direct Tax Code (DTC) is also in progress. Tax proposals on Direct Taxes are estimated to yield Rs.13,300 crore and indirect taxes to yield Rs.4,700 crore.

Initiating the discussion on 13 March 2013, Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi (BJP) said that there is an inherent contradiction in the economic policies of the Government. There is no clarity in the priorities and objectives. A lot of the unrest in the country is because development schemes of the Government are creating disturbances in the lives of the people. On one hand, farmers are dying and on the other foodgrains are rotting. Fiscal deficit has been shown as reduced only by jugglery of figures. The Government introduced concrete programmes for the Scheduled Castes and other backward people, but the benefits have been cornered by a privileged few. Dr. Joshi alleged that all the sectors of the economy are heavily under debt. He also pointed out that in an election year, all the schemes formulated by the Government have been made with an eye on the electorate. Schemes like Direct Cash Transfer and the announcement of loan waiver in the past are two such examples.

Shri Baliram Sukur Jadhav* (BVA) said that the Finance Minister has paid attention to one and all. He has allocated money for education, agriculture, small industries and women. He claimed that natural calamities

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* Others who participated in the discussion were: Sarvashri Sanjay Nirupam, Sharad Yadav, C. Sivasami, N. Peethambara Kurup, Kalyan Banerjee, Radha Mohan Singh, K.C. Singh 'Baba', Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, P. Karunakaran, Virendra Kumar, Satpal Maharaj, Anandrao Adsul, Ajay Kumar, Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav, Nikhil Kumar Choudhary, Laxman Tudu, P. Kumar, C. Rajendran, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Abdul Rahman, Tufani Saroj, Neeraj Shekhar, Ramsinh Rathwa, Naranbhai Kachhadia, Shivarama Gouda, P.K. Biju, Ganesh Singh, Kapil Muni Karwaria, Sudarshan Bhagat, Mahendrasinh P. Chauhan, N.S.V. Chitthan, Rudramadhab Ray, P. Viswanathan, Prabodh Panda, Mansukhbhai D. Vasava, Bhakta Charan Das, Nilesh Narayan Rane, Lalji Tandon, P.T. Thomas, R. Dhruvanarayana, Jagdanand Singh, Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar, Rakesh Singh, M. Venugopala Reddy, Ramesh Bais, Smt. Jyoti Dhurve, Gorakhnath Pandey, Abhijit Mukherjee, Dilipkumar Mansukh Lal Gandhi, Vijay Inder Singla, Ram Singh Kaswan, Dr. Mirza Mehboob Beg, K. Jayaprakash Hegde, Sanjay Singh Chauhan, Naveen Jindal, Shripad Yesso Naik, P.C. Mohan, A.T. Nana Patil, Murari Lal Singh, O.S. Manian, Pralhad Joshi, Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Mohammed E. T. Basheer, Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hansraj G. Ahir, Shailendra Kumar, Charles Dias, M.I. Shanavas, Virender Kashyap, Ramen Deka, Arjun Roy, Nalin Kumar Kateel, R.Thamaraiselvan, S. Semmalai, Ratan Singh, Bhartruhari Mahtab, K.P. Dhanapalan, Madhusudan Yadav, Chandu Lal Sahu, Pulin Bihari Baske, Harish Choudhary, Devji M. Patel, A. Sampath, Nripendra Nath Roy, Thol Thirumaavalavan, J.M. Aaron Rashid, Narayan Singh Amlabe, S.S. Ramasubbu, Dr. G. Vivekanand, Rajendra Agrawal, Haribhau Jawale, Jai Prakash Agarwal, Hassan Khan, Ijyaraj Singh, Ashok Argal, Anto Antony, Shivkumar Udasi, Bhausaheb Rajaram Wakchaure, Sk. Saidul Haque, Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, Prof. Saugata Roy, Dr. K.S. Rao, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Dr. Ratna De, Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik, Dr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Dr. Thokchom Meinya, Dr. Tarun Mandal, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Smt. Jayshreeben Patel, Smt. Priya Dutt, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Smt. Poonam Veljibhai Jat, Smt. J. Helen Davidson and Smt. Botcha Jhansi Lakshmi.

like drought and hailstorm cause maximum damage to the crops. Farmers must be given every help otherwise they will continue to commit suicide. Shri Jadhav suggested that a National Disaster Redressal Commission be set up.

Shri Kuldeep Bishnoi (HJC-BL) said that the nation is standing at crucial crossroads. While declining economic growth, increasing inflation, poverty and the condition of agricultural industries are a matter of concern, there is corruption, urban and rural unemployment, deteriorating health and education system and most importantly increasing gap between the rich and the poor. The government does not have any concrete policy to get rid of poverty, unemployment and inflation. There is a need for vital reforms in the agriculture sector. Besides, there is a need for big investment in irrigation management, advanced technology and land reforms.

Shri Jose K. Mani (KC-M) was of the view that the Union Budget 2013 is a feel-good budget which intends to stimulate growth while meeting social and economic justice objectives. The Finance Minister has rightly increased the credit limit for agricultural activities. He also thanked the Government for extending the pilot scheme for replanting and rejuvenating coconut gardens to the entire State of Kerala.

Shri Dara Singh Chauhan (BSP) said that the entire country is disillusioned with the Budget. The direct Cash Transfer Scheme has turned out to be a mirage. The Government is patting its back for doubling the minimum support price. But the price rise situation is grim. Electricity rates have shot up. Diesel subsidy has been done away with. Prices of seed, fertilizers, and water have risen phenomenally. There is no concern for the farmers. Subsidy has come down from Rs.96,000 crore to Rs.65,000 crore. The Finance Minister is completely focused on the capitalists instead of poor farmers, weavers and youth.

Dr. M. Thambidurai (AIADMK) said that the Finance Minister has failed to suggest any long-term solutions to the growth problems of the Indian economy. Tamil Nadu has shown the path of development and the State had a growth rate of 7.4 per cent which is higher than the national average. Budget should be based on the estimates, not on the actuals. The Budget gives no policy prescriptions. It is an accountant's Budget.

Shri A. Ganeshamurthi (MDMK) felt that the General Budget for this year has poured cold water on the expectations of the people. The last year's target of 6.8 per cent growth rate has not been achieved and there is no possibility of achieving it this year either. Prices of essential commodities have risen higher than ever before. There is no pro-active

scheme in the Budget to control price rise. There is no measure regarding abolition of service tax and online trading. Growth in agriculture has decreased to 1.8 per cent. There is very little allocation of funds to agriculture.

Shri Asaduddin Owaisi (AIMIM) said that only Rs.3,530 crore has been given to the Ministry of Minority Affairs in 2013-14. This is insignificant because Muslims are at the bottom of the socio-economic pyramid. Though Rs.3,135 crore was promised last year, the Government released only Rs.2,200 crore. This year there is no allocation for village development programmes.

Shri Lalu Prasad (RJD) felt that the negative effects of the present Budget are more discernible among poor women. The Budget lacks special programmes for the country's backward classes, minorities and the downtrodden. After the Sachar Commission report, the Government identified 90 Muslim-dominated districts but no development work has been undertaken in these districts, especially in Bihar. The money being granted by the Centre to states is not being properly monitored for its utilization and implementation.

Shri Sansuma Khunggur Bwiswmuthiary (BPF) lamented that the Bodoland autonomous area has not been allocated much fund in this budget. Though the total population of Bodoland area is around 30 lakhs, only 60 crore has been allocated.

Replying to the discussion on 14 March 2013, the Minister of Finance, Shri P. Chidambaram said that by and large, there was no serious criticism of the Budget. He said that India's oil import bill alone is over 50 billion dollars. The current 5 per cent growth rate should not demoralize the country. India will recover and in 2013-14, the country will be able to achieve a growth of over 6 per cent. The country will return to a growth rate of 7 per cent and more soon.

He asserted that the Direct Benefit Transfer is the best way to transfer money directly to the poor, the deserving and the beneficiary, without corruption and with full accountability. The State Governments can transfer their benefits to the beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer. This is indeed a game changer. India is committed to implement the Programme for minorities.

All the Demands for Grants on Account (General) were voted in full.

The Appropriation (Vote of Account) Bill, 2013 was passed.

B. LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Criminal Law Amendment Bill, 2013: Moving the motion for consideration of the Bill on 19 March 2013, the Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Sushilkumar Shinde said that the Government has brought the bill based on the recommendations of the Departmentally Related Standing Committee on Home Affairs, the recommendations of Justice Verma Committee and the views and suggestions received from various quarters including women's groups. He said that the Bill provides for meeting out harsher punishments in certain cases. Minimum punishment of 20 years, extendable to sentence for life, have been prescribed for gang rape and sentence up to death for the repeat offenders of rape or gang rape. The laws are being made more women-friendly by providing for protection of dignity of women during the recording of evidence as well as during their cross-examination.

Initiating the discussion* Dr. Bhola Singh (BJP) welcomed the Bill and said that the bill shows intense effort, awareness and responsiveness. However, mere enactment of this Bill is not going to stop the incidents of misconduct and rape against women in society. Unless there is a change in the mindset of society and the cultural consciousness of society is developed, this Bill cannot make a meaningful impact. Therefore, besides this law, there is a need to change the mindset of society and social reforms and refinement have to be brought about through social and cultural institutions.

Replying the debate, The Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Sushilkumar Shinde thanked the entire House for unanimously supporting the issue. He said that a new provision has been made under section 166(A) to punish to police officer in case he/she does not lodge a FIR. A provision has also been included to deal with disrobing in a public or a private place. The Minister agreed that a lady police officer should be appointed in each police station.

The Bill, as amended, was passed.

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* Other who participated in the discussions were: Sarvashri Sandeep Dikshit, Shailendra Kumar, Dara Singh Chauhan, Sharad Yadav, Kalyan Banerjee, A. Sampath, Pinaki Misra, Anant Gangaram Geete, S. Semmalai, Nama Nageswara Rao, Gurudas Dasgupta D. Shariq, Kameshwar Baitha, Asaduddin Owaisi, Thol Thirumaavalavan, Ajay Kumar, R. Thamaraiselvan, Vijay Bahadur Singh, Lalu Prasad, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Smt. Supriya Sule, Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Smt. Priya Dutt, Smt. Jayaprada, Smt. Shatabdi Roy, Smt. Meena Singh and Km. Saroj Pandey.

STATE LEGISLATURES

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Eighth Session of the Thirteenth Assam Legislative Assembly commenced on 4 March 2013 and was adjourned *sine die* on 5 April 2013. There were 18 sittings in all.

Address by the Governor: On 4 March 2013, the Governor, Shri Janaki Ballav Patnaik addressed the House. The Motion of Thanks on the Governor's Address was moved and after debate, the motion was adopted and passed by the House on 7 March 2013.

Financial business: On 4 March 2013, the Chief Minister, Shri Tarun Gogoi who also holds the Finance portfolio, presented the List of Supplementary Demands and the Supplementary Appropriation for the year 2012-2013 to the House. After general discussion and voting, the Demands for Grants for the year 2012-2013 were passed by the House on 8 March 2013. The Assam Appropriation (No.I) Bill was introduced, considered and passed by the House on the same day. The Budget Estimates for the year 2013-2014 were presented and after debate on the Budget, the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill was passed by the House on 26 March 2013.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of 14 leading personalities.

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Thirteenth Session of the Fourth Delhi Legislative Assembly commenced on 13 March 2013 and was adjourned *sine die* on 2 April 2013. There were 13 sittings in all.

Address by the Lt. Governor: On 13 March 2013, the Lt. Governor, Shri Tejendra Khanna delivered his Address to the House which was passed on 19 March 2013.

Legislative business: During the Session, the following four Bills were passed by the House: (i) The Delhi Water Board (Amendment) Bill, 2013; (ii) The Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013; (iii) The Delhi Appropriation (No. 1) Bill, 2013; and (iv) The Delhi Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013.

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* Material contributed by the Assam Legislative Assembly Secretariat
** Material contributed by the Delhi Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Sarvashri Babu Lal Kelkar, former member of the Metropolitan Council (1967-72); A.L. Raliyaram, former member of the Metropolitan Council (Interim Metropolitan Council-1966); Mohan Singh Bammi, former Freedom Fighter; and Rajesh Kaushik, Senior Journalist, Sahara TV.

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY*

The Fourth Session of the Tenth Manipur Legislative Assembly commenced on 6 March 2013 and was adjourned *sine die* on 8 March 2013. There were 3 sittings in all.

Financial business: During the Session, the Chief Minister, Shri O. Ibobi Singh presented the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2012-13; the Budget Estimates for the year 2013-14; and the Vote on Accounts for the year 2013; which were discussed and passed by the House.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references was made on the passing away of Shri Th. Achouba Singh, former member of the Manipur Legislative Assembly from 35-Khangabok Assembly Constituency and Shri Maibam Hera Singh, member of the second Manipur Legislative Assembly l-Khundrakpam Assembly Constituency.

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Fifteenth West Bengal Legislative Assembly which commenced its Eighth Session on 8 March 2013 was adjourned *sine die* on 22 March 2013. There were 12 sittings in all.

Obituary references: During the Session, obituary references were made on the passing away of Mr. Hugo Rafael Chavez, President of Venezuela; Shri Viren J. Shah, former Governor of West Bengal; Shri Kalimuddin Shams, former Deputy Speaker of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and former Minister of Government of West Bengal; Dr. Nirmal Sinha, former member of the Lok Sabha and former member of the State Legislative Assembly; Shri Kamal Kumar Basu, former member of the Lok Sabha and former Mayor of Kolkata Municipal Corporation; Smt. Maya Ray, former member of Parliament; Sarvashri

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* Material contributed by the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat

** Material contributed by the West Bengal Legislative Assembly Secretariat

Haripada Jana, Sudhan Raha, Sattick Kumar Ray, Shibapada Bhattacharjee, Monoranjan Baksi, Sudhir Bera, Gopal Gayen, Panchanan Sinha Ray, Gautam Roy Chowdhury, Bishnu Let and Smt. Sandhya Chatterjee, all former members of the State Legislative Assembly; Shri Ganesh Pyne, an eminent artist; Shri Leslie Walter Claudius, a legendary Hockey player; Shri Haradhan Bandyopadhyay, an eminent actor; Smt. Purnima Chawdhuri, a noted classical singer and the people who died in a recent incident of fire in Surya Sen Market in Sealdah, Kolkata.

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RECENT LITERATURE OF PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST

I. BOOKS

Ahmad, M.F., *Electoral Politics in Federal India: Decentralized Democracy and Panchayati Raj* (Delhi: Navyug Books International), 2012

Banerji, R., *Right to Information and Good Governance (with RTI Act, 2005)* (New Delhi: Arise Publishers), 2012

Bloch, Maurice, *Marxism and Anthropology: The History of a Relationship* (New Delhi: Oxford University Press), 2011

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Chaube, Shibani Kinkar, *Politics of Nation Building in India* (New Delhi: Gyan Publishing House), 2012

Clawson, Rosalee A., *Public Opinion: Democratic Ideals, Democratic Practice (2nd Edition)* (Los Angeles: Sage Publications), 2013

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Das, Ratan, *Gandhi: As Spelt Out By Vinoba* (New Delhi: Sarup Book Publishers), 2012

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Gaur, Rinki, *Women and Grass Roots Politics* (Ghaziabad: Keshav Publications), 2012

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Kansra, Deepa, *India and the Dynamics of Socialism in the Global Order* (New Delhi: Authorspress), 2012

Kashyap, Subhash C., *Indian Presidency: Constitution: Law and Practice* (New Delhi: Universal Law Publishing), 2012

Mau, Steffen, *Liberal States and the Freedom of Movement: Selective Borders, Unequal Mobility* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan), 2012

Misra, Shyam Kartik, *Women Status and Empowerment in India* (New Delhi: New Century Publications), 2012

Mohanty, Biswaranjan, *Foreign Policy of India in the 21st Century* (New Delhi: New Century Publications), 2012

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Rizal, Dhurba, *South Asia and Beyond: Discourses on Emerging Security Challenges and Concerns* (New Delhi: Adroit Publishers), 2012

Roy, Arpita Basu, ed., *International Intervention in Afghanistan: Motives and Approaches* (Delhi: Shipra Publications), 2012

Saighal, Vinod, *Revitalising Indian Democracy* (New Delhi: Gyan Publishing), 2012

Sharma, B.K., *Social Movements and Political Powers* (New Delhi: Kunal Books), 2012

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Sharma, Niranjan, *International Relations* (New Delhi: Crescent Publishing), 2012

Shewan, M.A., ed., *Portrait of a President: Pranab Mukherjee* (New Delhi: Mittal Publications), 2012

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Spinner-Halev, Jeff, *Enduring Injustice* (New York: Cambridge University Press), 2012

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APPENDIX I

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

1.	PERIOD OF THE SESSION	21 February to 8 May 2013
2.	NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD	32
3.	TOTAL NUMBER OF SITTING HOURS	94 hours and 42 minutes
4.	TIME LOST DUE TO INTERRUPTIONS/ FORCED ADJOURNMENTS	92 hours and 40 minutes
5.	HOUSE SITTING LATE TO COMPLETE LISTED BUSINESS	28 hours and 30 minutes
6.	GOVERNMENT BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	Nil
	(ii) Introduced	18
	(iii) Laid on the Table as passed by the Rajya Sabha	Nil
	(iv) Returned by the Rajya Sabha with any amendment/ recommendation and laid on the Table	Nil
	(v) Discussed	Nil
	(vi) Passed	12
	(vii) Withdrawn	Nil
	(viii) Negatived	Nil
	(ix) Part-discussed	Nil
	(x) Returned by the Rajya Sabha without any Recommendation	Nil
	(xi) Pending at the end of the Session	Nil
7.	PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS	
	(i) Pending at the commencement of the Session	Nil
	(ii) Introduced	36
	(iii) Discussed	Nil
	(iv) Passed	Nil
	(v) Withdrawn	Nil
	(vi) Negatived	Nil
	(vii) Part-discussed	Nil
	(viii) Pending at the end of the Session	Nil
8.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED UNDER RULE 377	362
9.	NUMBER OF MATTERS RAISED ON URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE DURING ZERO HOUR	244

10.	NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS HELD UNDER RULE 193	2
	(i) Notice received	Nil
	(ii) Admitted	Nil
	(iii) Discussion held	Nil
	(iv) Part-discussed	Nil
11.	STATEMENTS MADE BY MINISTERS	40
12.	TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ADMITTED	
	(i) Starred	600
	(ii) Un-starred	6,883
	(iii) Short Notice Questions	Nil
	(iv) Half-an-Hour Discussion	Nil
13.	NO. OF REPORTS OF VARIOUS PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES PRESENTED IN LOK SABHA	68
14.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITOR PASSES ISSUED DURING THE SESSION	22,424
15.	TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITORS TO THE PARLIAMENT MUSEUM DURING THE SESSION	6,334
16.	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE(S) CONSTITUTED, IF ANY, DURING THE SESSION	
17.	WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES	

Sl. No.	Name of the Committee	No. of sittings held during the period	No. of Reports presented
1	2	3	4
i)	Business Advisory Committee	—	—
ii)	Estimates Committee	—	—
iii)	Public Accounts Committee	—	—
iv)	Committee on Public Undertakings	—	—
v)	Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House	—	—
vi)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	—	—
vii)	Committee on Petitions	—	—
viii)	Committee on Private Members' Bills And Resolutions	4	4
ix)	Committee on Government Assurances	—	—
x)	Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	—	—
xi)	Joint Committee on Office of Profit	—	—
xii)	Joint Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	—	—
xiii)	Rules Committee	Nil	Nil
xiv)	Railway Convention Committee	1	Nil

xv)	Committee on Privileges	—	—
xvi)	Committee on Ethics	—	—
xvii)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS)	2	Nil
xviii)	Committee on Empowerment of Women	—	—
xix)	General Purposes Committee	Nil	GPC does not present any Report to the House
18.	DEPARTMENTALLY-RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES		
i)	Committee on Agriculture	9	4
ii)	Committee on Information Technology	3	Nil
iii)	Committee on Defence	6	2
iv)	Committee on Energy	1	Nil
v)	Committee on External Affairs	8	1
vi)	Committee on Finance	5	2
vii)	Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution	8	1
viii)	Committee on Labour	3	Nil
ix)	Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas	5	Nil
x)	Committee on Railways	4	Nil
xi)	Committee on Urban Development	5	1
xii)	Committee on Water Resources	2	Nil
xiii)	Committee on Chemical & Fertilizers	5	Nil
xiv)	Committee on Rural Development	2	Nil
xv)	Committee on Coal & Steel	5	Nil
xvi)	Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment	5	2

19. CELL ON PARLIAMENTARY FORUMS

Sl. No.	Name of Forum	No. of Meetings held during the period	No. of Lectures held
1.	Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management	1	1
2.	Parliamentary Forum on Youth	1	1
3.	Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change	1	1
4.	Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health	—	—
5.	Parliamentary Forum on Children	1	1
6.	Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Management	1	1

APPENDIX II

STATEMENT SHOWING THE WORK TRANSACTED DURING THE 228TH SESSION OF THE RAJYA SABHA

WORKING OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Name of Committee		No. of meetings held during the period 1 January–31 March 2013	No. of Reports presented during the 228th (I Part) Session
1	2	3	4
(i)	Business Advisory Committee	3	Nil
(ii)	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	2	Nil
(iii)	Committee on Petitions	4	Nil
(iv)	Committee of Privileges	Nil	Nil
(v)	Committee on Rules	Nil	Nil
(vi)	Committee on Government Assurances	3	Nil
(vii)	Committee on Papers Laid on the Table	2	Nil
(viii)	General Purposes Committee	Nil	Nil
(ix)	House Committee	Nil	Nil
Department-related Standing Committees			
(x)	Commerce	5	Nil
(xi)	Home Affairs	9	4
(xii)	Human Resource Development	10	5
(xiii)	Industry	5	5
(xiv)	Science and Technology, Environment and Forests	1	Nil
(xv)	Transport, Tourism and Culture	Nil	3
(xvi)	Health and Family Welfare	4	5
(xvii)	Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice	3	3
Other Committees			
(xviii)	Committee on Ethics	1	Nil
(xix)	Committee on Provision of Computer Equipment to Members of Rajya Sabha	1	Nil
(xx)	Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme	1	1

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2013

Legislature	Duration	Sittings	Govt. Bills Introduced (Passed)	Private Bills Introduced (Passed)	Starred Questions Received (Admitted)	Unstarred Questions Received (Admitted)	Short Notice Questions Received (Admitted)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	4.3.2013 to 5.4.2013	18	12(12)	0(0)	647(339)	352(597)	100(100)
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	18.2.2013 to 22.3.2013	25	14(14)	0(0)	1,655(1,058)	1,116(833)	0(0)
Goa L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.*	8.1.2013 to 11.1.2013 & 12.3.2013 to 9.4.2013	4 18	23(19)	0(0)	720(448)	185(154)	1(1)
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	28.2.2013 to 5.4.2013	27	16(13)	6(0)	531(439)	478(400)	2(2)
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Karnataka L.A.	4.2.2013 to 15.2.2013	10	14(14)	0(0)	75(75)	333(333)	0(0)
Karnataka L.C.	4.2.2013 to 15.2.2013	10	13(13)	0(0)	266(71)#	61(252)#	0(0)

Kerala L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	6.3.2013 to 8.3.2013	3	4(4)	0(0)	8(8)	4(4)	1(1)
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	12.3.2013 to 4.4.2013	16	8(7)	1(0)	647(589)	68(54)	—
Nagaland L.A.	14.3.2013 to 18.3.2013	4	3(3)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Orissa L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.	30.1.2013 to 30.1.2013 27.2.2013 to 28.2.2013	1 3	5(5)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	14.3.2013 to 21.3.2013	5	13(13)	0(0)	191(53)	571(138)	9(5)
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	8.3.2013 to 22.3.2013	12	13(12)	0(0)	670(259)	413(160)	0(0)
UNION TERRITORIES							
Delhi L.A.[ab]	13.3.2013 to 2.4.2013	13	4(4)	0(0)	240	540	53(5)
Puducherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union Territory Legislatures contained Nil Report

** Information not received from the State/Union Territory Legislatures

Unadmitted Starred Questions are converted as unstarred and one Notic admitted as Report

[ab] Clubbed questions-27, rejected-60

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

COMMITTEES AT WORK / NUMBER OF SITTINGS HELD AND NUMBER OF REPORTS PRESENTED DURING THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2013

	Business Advisory Committee	Committee on Government Assurances	Committee on Petitions	Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	Committee of Privileges	Committee on Public Undertakings	Committee on Subordinate Legislation	Committee on the Welfare of SCs and STs	Committee on Estimates	General Purposes Committee	House/Accommodation Committee	Library Committee	Public Accounts Committee	Rules Committee	Joint/Select Committee	Other Committees
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
STATES																
Andhra Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Arunachal Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.	3(3)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	3(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(1)	—	2(1)[a]	
Bihar L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bihar L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chhattisgarh L.A.	2(2)	2(1)	2(3)	5(5)	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	2(0)	0(0)	1(11)	0(0)	—	5(1)[b]		
Goa L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Gujarat L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Haryana L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	2(2)	—	—	—	2(0)	5(0)	3(2)	5(3)	4(0)	—	—	1(0)	5(12)	—	—	12(8)[c]		
Jammu & Kashmir LA.	3(0)	2(1)	0(1)	&	3(1)	2(1)	3(1)	&	2(1)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	8(1)	0(0)	—	10(3)[d]		
Jammu & Kashmir LC.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Jharkhand L.A.	—	1(0)	—	—	0(0)	2(0)	2(0)	1(0)	1(0)	1(0)	0(0)	—	1(0)	0(0)	—	6(0)[e]		
Karnataka L.A.	1(0)	7(0)	7(0)	0(0)	12(1)	7(0)	9(1)	8(0)	8(0)	—	6(0)	2(0)	9(1)	0(0)	0(0)	35(4)[f]		
Karnataka L.C.	1(0)	9(0)	8(0)	1(0)	9(2)	—	—	—	—	—	8(0)	—	—	—	0(0)	—		
Kerala L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Madhya Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Maharashtra L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Manipur L.A.	1(1)	1(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	5(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	1(0)	0(0)	1(0)[g]		
Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Mizoram L.A.	2(2)	3(1)	0(0)	—	—	1(1)	0(0)	—	3(1)	—	—	—	6(5)	0(0)	—	11(5)[h]		
Nagaland L.A.*	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	—	—		
Odisha L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Sikkim L.A.	—	0(0)	—	—	1(NA)	—	—	—	0(0)	—	—	1(NA)	0(0)	3(NA)	0(0)	—		
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		

& Does not exist

Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	3(3)	0(0)	2(1)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	2(0)	0(0)	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	4(4)	10(2)	10(0)	—	13(0)	10(5)	10(0)	10(0)	—	11(0)	—	12(0)	11(0)	12(0)	1(0)	290(7)[h]	
UNION TERRITORIES																	
Delhi L.A.	1(1)	1(1)	0(0)	1(1)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	1	1(0)[i]	
Puducherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

(a) Act Implementation committee-2(1)

(b) Question and Reference Committee-2(0), Committee relating to the Exam. of the Papers laid on the Table-2(1) and Women and Child Welfare Committee-1(0)

(c) Public Administration Committee-3(2), Human Development Committee-3(2), General Development Committee-2(2) and Rural Planning Committee-4(2)

(d) Committee on Environment-4(1), Ethics Committee-2(1) and House Committee constituted "to examine the cause of alarming increase in the death of Patients in SKIMS, Srinagar and SMGS Hospital (Pediatrics), Jammu-4(1)

(e) Nivedan Committee-2(0), Gair Government Resolution Committee-1(0), Environment and Pollution Control Committee-2(0) and Ethics Committee-1(0)

(f) Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-6(0), Committee on Backward Classes and Minorities-8(1), Committee on Local Bodies and Panchayat Raj-9(1), House Committee Constituted to Report on the Activities of the Clubs in the State-9(2) and House Committee constituted to Enquire into the Irregularities in PWD Department-3(0)

(g) Hill Areas Committee-1(0)

(h) Subject Committee-I-3(1), Subject Committee-III-4(1) and Subject Committee-V-4(3)

(i) Committee on Bidhayak Elaka Unnayan Prakalpa-11, Committee on Papers Laid on the Table-10(1), Committee on the Entitlements of the Members-1, Committee on Affairs of Women and Children-10(1), Committee on Reforms and Functioning of the Committee System-12, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Agriculture Marketing and Fisheries-11(1), Standing Committee on Commerce and Industries, Industrial Reconstruction and Public Enterprises-11, Standing Committee on Micro and Small Scale Enterprises and Textiles and Animal Resources

Development-8, Standing Committee on Higher Education-10, Standing Committee on School Education-10, Standing Committee on Environment, Forests and Tourism-10, Standing Committee on Finance, Excise and Development and Planning-9(2), Standing Committee on Food and Supplies, Food Processing and Horticulture and Co-operation and Consumer Affairs-11, Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare-11, Standing Committee on Home, Personnel and Administrative Reforms, Jails, Law, Judicial and Civil Defence-10, Standing Committee on Housing, Hill Affairs and Fire Services-10, Standing Committee on Information and Cultural Affairs, Sports and Youth Services-11, Standing Committee on Irrigation and Waterways and Water Investigation and Development-12(1), Standing Committee on Labour-10, Standing Committee on Municipal Affairs and Urban Development-11, Standing Committee on Panchayats and Rural Development, Land and Land Reforms and Sundarban Development-10(0), Standing Committee on Power and Non-conventional Energy Sources-10(0), Standing Committee on Public Works and Public Health Engineering – 11, Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Information Technology and Bio-Technology-12(1), Standing Committee on Self-Help Group and Self-Employment-9, Standing Committee on Social Welfare, Disaster Management and Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation-11, Standing Committee on Transport-8, Standing Committee on Backward Classes Welfare-10 and Standing Committee on Minority Affairs-10

(j) Select Committee on the Delhi Registration of Marriages Bill, 2012-1

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT AND ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT DURING THE PERIOD

1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH, 2013

Sl. No.	Title of the Bill	Date of assent by the President
1.	The Constitution (Ninety-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2012*	1.1.2013
2.	The Enforcement of Security Interest and Recovery of Debts Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012	3.1.2013
3.	The Prevention of Money-Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2012	3.1.2013
4.	The Unlawful Activities (Amendment) Bill, 2012	3.1.2013
5.	The Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2012	5.1.2013
6.	The Appropriation (Railways) Vote on Account Bill, 2013	20.3.2013
7.	The Appropriation (Railways) Bill, 2013	20.3.2013
8.	The Appropriation (Railways) No.2 Bill, 2013	20.3.2013
9.	The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013	22.3.2013
10.	The Appropriation Bill, 2013	22.3.2013
11.	The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013	22.3.2013
12.	The Jharkhand Appropriation Bill, 2013	22.3.2013
13.	The Jharkhand Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013	22.3.2013

* The Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha as the Constitution (One Hundred-Eighteenth Amendment) Bill, 2012. The Short title of the Bill was changed by Lok Sabha as the Constitution (Ninety-ninth Amendment) Bill, 2012. Rajya Sabha returned the Bill to Lok Sabha as the Constitution (Ninety-Eighth Amendment) Bill, 2012.

APPENDIX V

LIST OF BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURES OF THE STATES AND THE UNION TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD

1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2013

ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assam Appropriation (No-I) Bill, 2013
2. The Assam Appropriation (No-II) Bill, 2013
3. The Assam Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013
4. The Registration (Assam Amendment) Bill, 2013
5. The Assam Muslim Marriages and Divorces Registration (Amendment) Bill, 2013
6. The Assam Venture Madrassa Educational Institutions (Provincialisation of Services) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
7. The Gauhati University (Amendment) Bill, 2013
8. The Dibrugarh University (Amendment) Bill, 2013
9. The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2013
10. The Assam Protection of Interests of Depositors (In financial establishment) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
11. The Assam Prisons Bill, 2013
12. The Indian Stamp (Assam Amendment) Bill, 2013

CHHATTISGARH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Chhattisgarh Viniyog (No.1) Vidheyak, 2013
2. Chhattisgarh Viniyog (No.2) Vidheyak, 2013
3. Chhattisgarh Speaker & Deputy Speaker (Salary & Allowances) (Amendment), Vidheyak, 2013
4. Chhattisgarh Vidhan Mandal Leader of Opposition (Salary & Allowances) (Amendment), Vidheyak, 2013
5. Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha, Members Salary, Allowances & Pension (Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013
6. Chhattisgarh Minister (Salary & Allowances) (Amendment), Vidheyak, 2013
7. Chhattisgarh Ucch Shikchhan ke Ashashkiya Mahavidyalaya aur Sanstha (Sthapana aur Viniyman) (Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013
8. Chhattisgarh Anusuchit Jati, Janjati and Anya Pichda Varg (Samajik Prasthit ke Pramanikaran ka Viniyaman) Vidheyak, 2013
9. Antarastriya Suchna Praudyogiki Sansthan (I.I.T.I.) Vishvidyalaya Vidheyak, 2013
10. Chhattisgarh Mulya Sanvardhit Kar (Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013

*OTHERS

11. Chhattisgarh Vishvidyalaya (Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013
12. Dand Vidhi (Chhatttisgarh Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013
13. Chhattisgarh Yuvavon ke Kaushal Vikas ka Adhikar Vidheyak, 2013
14. Chhattisgarh Vidhan Sabha Sasya Vetan, Bhatta tatha Pension (Amendment) Vidheyak, 2013

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Delhi Water Board (Amendment) Bill, 2013
2. The Delhi Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2013
3. The Delhi Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013
4. The Delhi Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013

HIMACHAL PRADESH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation Bill, 2013
2. The Himachal Pradesh Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2013
3. The Sri Sai University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
4. The Eternal University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
5. The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
6. The Chitkara University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
7. The Career Point University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
8. The Bahra University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
9. The Baddi University of Emerging Science and Technology (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
10. The APG (Alakh Prakash Goyal) Shimla University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
11. The Manav Bharti University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
12. The Indus International University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
13. The IEC (India Education Centre) University Establishment and Regulation Amendment Bill, 2013
14. The Arni University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
15. The Shoolini University of Biotechnology And Management Sciences (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
16. The Maharaja Agrasen University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
17. The Maharishi Markandeshwar University (Establishment and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2013
18. The Himachal Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2013
19. The Himachal Pradesh Private Clinical (Registration and Regulation) Repeal Bill, 2013

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage (Amendment) Bill, 2013

2. The Mysore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
3. The Karnataka Repealing of Certain Enactment and Regional laws Bill, 2013
4. The Electricity (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2013
5. The Karnataka Electricity (Taxation on Consumption) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
6. The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
7. The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013
8. The Karnataka Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013
9. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2013
10. Shri Malai Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshetra Development Authority Bill, 2013
11. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2013
12. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2013
13. The Karnataka Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2013
14. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2013
15. The Karnataka State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2013
16. C.M.R. University Bill, 2013
17. New Baldwin University Bill, 2013
18. Presidency University Bill, 2013
19. The Karnataka State Universities (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013
20. The Institute of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology Bill, 2013
21. The Visvesvaraya Technological University (Amendment) Bill, 2013
22. The Karnataka Municipalities and Certain Other Law (Amendment) Bill, 2013
23. The Karnataka Sugarcane (Regulation of Purchase and Supply) Bill, 2013
24. Vydehi University Bill, 2013
25. Garden City University Bill, 2013
26. J.S.S. Science and Technology University Bill, 2013
27. Srinivasa University Bill, 2013

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage (Amendment) Bill, 2013
2. The Mysore Palace (Acquisition and Transfer) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
3. The Karnataka Repealing of Certain Enactment and Regional laws Bill, 2013
4. The Electricity (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2013
5. The Karnataka Electricity (Taxation on Consumption) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
6. The Karnataka Agricultural Produce Marketing (Regulation and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
7. The Karnataka Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013
8. The Karnataka Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013
9. The Karnataka Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2013
10. Shri Malai Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshetra Development Authority Bill, 2013
11. The Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2013
12. The Karnataka Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 2013

13. The Karnataka Excise (Amendment) Bill, 2013
14. The Karnataka Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2013
15. The Karnataka State Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2013
16. C.M.R. University Bill, 2013
17. New Baldwin University Bill, 2013
18. Presidency University Bill, 2013
19. The Karnataka State Universities (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013
20. The Institute of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology Bill, 2013
21. The Vishvesvaraya Technological University (Amendment) Bill, 2013
22. The Karnataka Municipalities and Certain Other Law (Amendment) Bill, 2013
23. The Karnataka Sugarcane (Regulation of Purchase and Supply) Bill, 2013
24. Vydehi University Bill, 2013
25. Garden City University Bill, 2013
26. J.S.S. Science and Technology University Bill, 2013
27. Srinivasa University Bill, 2013

MANIPUR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Manipur Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2013
2. The Manipur Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013
3. The Manipur Municipality Ombudsman Bill, 2013
4. The Manipur Rural Local Bodies Ombudsman Bill, 2013

MIZORAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Mizoram Land Revenue Bill, 2013*
2. The Mizoram Fire Service Bill, 2013*
3. The Mizoram Entertainment Tax Bill, 2013
4. The Mizoram Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2013
5. The Mizoram Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013
6. The Mizoram Slaughter Bill, 2013*
7. The Mizoram Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2013

NAGALAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2013
2. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013
3. The Nagaland Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2013

SIKKIM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Sikkim Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2013
2. The Sikkim Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013
3. The Sikkim Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2013
4. The Sikkim Earthquake Rehabilitation Management Fund Bill, 2013
5. The Sikkim Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2013

UTTARAKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The Uttarakhand Lokayukta and Up-Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2013
2. The Uttarakhand Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2013
3. The Uttarakhand Medicare Service Persons and Institutions (Prevention of Violence and Damage to Property) Bill, 2013
4. Indian Stamp (Uttarakhand Amendment) Bill, 2013
5. The Uttarakhand Power Development Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2013
6. The Uttarakhand Miscellaneous Act Validation Bill, 2013
7. The Uttarakhand Plastic and Other Non-Biodegradable Garbage (Regulation of Use and Disposal) Bill, 2013
8. The Uttarakhand Special Area (Planned Development and Promotion of Tourism) Bill, 2013
9. The Uttarakhand Sugarcane (Regulation of Supply and Purchase) (Amendment) Bill, 2013
10. The Uttarakhand Technical University (Amendment) Bill, 2013
11. The Uttarakhand Appropriation Bill, 2013
12. The Uttarakhand Water Management and Regulatory Bill, 2013
13. The Uttarakhand Urban and Country Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill, 2013

WEST BENGAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. The West Bengal School Service Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2013*
2. The West Bengal State Higher Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Bill, 2013*
3. The Presidency University (Amendment) Bill, 2013*
4. The West Bengal State Health Service (Amendment) Bill, 2013*
5. The West Bengal Co-operative Societies (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2013*
6. The West Bengal Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Bill, 2013*
7. The West Bengal Finance Bill, 2013
8. The West Bengal Appropriation Bill, 2013
9. The West Bengal Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2013
10. The West Bengal Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 2013*
11. The Kolkata Improvement (Amendment) Bill, 2013*
12. The West Bengal Town and Country (Planning and Development) (Amendment) Bill, 2013*

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* Bills awaiting assent

APPENDIX VI

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED BY THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS DURING THE PERIOD

1 JANUARY TO 31 MARCH 2013

Sl. No.	Title of Ordinance	Date of Promulgation	Date on which laid before the House	Date of Cessation	Remarks
			UNION GOVERNMENT		
1.	The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013	21.1.2013	22.2.2013	—	Yet to be replaced by an Act of Parliament
2.	The Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Ordinance, 2013	30.1.2013	22.2.2013	—	Yet to be replaced by an Act of Parliament
3.	The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013	3.2.2013	22.2.2013	—	Yet to be replaced by an Act of Parliament
			HIMACHAL PRADESH		
1.	The Himachal Pradesh Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2013	14.2.2013	12.3.2013	Awaited	Replaced by Government Bill
			WEST BENGAL		
1.	The West Bengal Co-operative Societies (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2013	4.2.2013	8.3.2013	—	Replaced by Legislation passed on 21.3.2013
2.	The West Bengal Co-operative Societies (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2013	19.2.2013	8.3.2013	—	Replaced by Legislation passed on 21.3.2013

APPENDIX VII

A. PARTY POSITION IN 15TH LOK SABHA (STATE–WISE) (AS ON 31.3.2013)

States	No. of Seats	INC	BJP	SP	BSP	JD (U)	AITC	DMK	CPI (M)	BJD	SHIV SENA	NCP	AIA DMK	TDP	RLD	CPI	SAD	RJD	JKNC	JD (S)	AIFB
Andhra Pradesh	42	31	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Arunachal Pradesh	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Assam	14	7	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Bihar	40	1*	12	–	–	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–
Chhattisgarh	11	1	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Goa	2	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Gujarat	26	9	15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Haryana	10	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Himachal Pradesh	4	–	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Jammu & Kashmir	6	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–
Jharkhand	14	1	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Karnataka	28	7	18	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	–
Kerala	20	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Madhya Pradesh	29	12	16	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maharashtra	48	17	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Manipur	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Meghalaya	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mizoram	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Nagaland	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Odisha	21	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	–	–	–	–	1		–	–	–	–
Punjab	13	8	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–
Rajasthan	25	20	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Sikkim	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tamil Nadu	39	8	–	–	–	–	–	18	1	–	–	–	9	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
Tripura	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Uttarakhand	5	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Uttar Pradesh	80	22	10	22	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	–	–	–	–	–
West Bengal	42	5	1	–	–	–	18	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	2
UNION TERRITORIES																					
A & N Islands	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Chandigarh	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Daman & Diu	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
NCT of Delhi	7	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Lakshadweep	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Puducherry	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL	543	204*	115	22	21	20	19	18	16	14	11	9	9	6	5	4	4	4	3	3	2

* Excluding Speaker, LS

TOTAL	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	542*

* Excluding Speaker, LS

APPENDIX VII (CONTD.)

States	JMM	JVM (P)	IUML	RSP	TRS	YSRC	AIM EIM	AGP	AIUDF	BVA	BPF	HJC (BL)	KC (M)	MDMK	NPF	SDF	SP	VCK	IND	Total	Vacancies
Andhra Pradesh	–	–	–	–	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	42	–
Arunachal Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Assam	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	–
Bihar	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	38*	1
Chhattisgarh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	–
Goa	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Gujarat	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	2
Haryana	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	–
Himachal Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1
Jammu & Kashmir	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	6	–
Jharkhand	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	14	–
Karnataka	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	28	–
Kerala	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	20	–
Madhya Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	–
Maharashtra	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	48	–
Manipur	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Meghalaya	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Mizoram	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Nagaland	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–
Odisha	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	21	–
Punjab	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	–
Rajasthan	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	25	–
Sikkim	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–
Tamil Nadu	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	39	–
Tripura	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–
Uttarakhand	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	–
Uttar Pradesh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	80	–
West Bengal	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	41	1
UNION TERRITORIES																					
A & N Islands	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Chandigarh	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Daman & Diu	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–		–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
NCT of Delhi	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	–
Lakshadweep	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Puducherry	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
TOTAL	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9	537*	5

* Excluding Speaker, LS

Abbreviations used for Parties :

AGP–Asom Gana Parishad; AIFB–All India Forward Block; AIADMK–All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; AIMEIM–All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen; AITC–All India Trinamool Congress; AITC—All Indian Trinamool Congress; AUDF–Assam United Democratic Front; BJD–Biju Janata Dal; BJP–Bharatiya Janata Party; BPF–Bodoland Peoples Front; BSP–Bahujan Samaj Party; BVA–Bahujan Vikas Aaghadi; CPI (M)–Communist Party of India (Marxist); CPI–Communist Party of India; DMK–Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; HJC(BL)–Haryana Janhit Congress (BL); INC–Indian National Congress; IND–Independents; JKNC–Jammu & Kashmir National Conference; JD(S)–Janata Dal (Secular); JD(U)–Janata Dal (United); JMM–Jharkhand Mukti Morcha; JVM(P)–Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantrik); KC(M)–Kerala Congress (M); MDMK–Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; MLKSC–Muslim League Kerala State Committee; NCP–Nationalist Congress Party; NPF–Nagaland Peoples Front; RJD–Rashtriya Janata Dal; RLD–Rashtriya Lok Dal; RSP–Revolutionary Socialist Party; SAD–Shiromani Akali Dal; SDF–Sikkim Democratic Front; SP–Samajwadi Party; SWP–Swabhimani Paksha; SS–Shiv Sena; TDP–Telugu Desam Party; TRS–Telangana Rashtra Samithi & VCK–Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi

B. PARTY POSITION IN RAJYA SABHA (AS ON 23 APRIL 2013)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	Seats	INC	BJP	SP	CPI (M)	JD (U)	AIA-DMK	BSP	CPI	*Others	IND	Total	Vacan-cies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
STATES														
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5[a]	—	18	—
2.	ArunachalPradesh	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
3.	Assam	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[b]	—	7	—
4.	Bihar	16	—	4	—	—	9	—	—	—	3[c]	—	16	—
5.	Chhattisgarh	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
6.	Goa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
7.	Gujarat	11	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
8.	Haryana	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[d]	—	5	—
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[e]	—	4	—
11.	Jharkhand	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2[f]	1	6	—
12.	Karnataka	12	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12	—
13.	Kerala	9	3	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	1[g]	—	9	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—
15.	Maharashtra	19	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	10[h]	—	19	—
16.	Manipur	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
17.	Meghalaya	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
18.	Mizoram	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[i]	—	1	—
19.	Nagaland	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[j]	—	1	—
20.	Odisha	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6[k]	2	10	—
21.	Punjab	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3[l]	—	7	—
22.	Rajasthan	10	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—

23.	Sikkim	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[m]	—	1	—
24.	Tamil Nadu	18	4	—	—	1	—	5	—	1	7[n]	—	18	—
25.	Tripura	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
26.	Uttarakhand	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	31	2	3	9	—	—	—	15	—	—	2	31	—
28.	West Bengal	16	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	9[o]	1	16	—
Union Territories														
29.	The NCT of Delhi	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
30.	Puducherry	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
31.	Nominated	12	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9[p]	—	11	1
	TOTAL	245	72	49	9	11	9	5	15	2	64	8	244	1

Others
(Break-up of Parties/Groups)

(a) TDP-5
(b) AGP-2, BPF-1
(c) RJD-2,LJP-1
(d) INLD-1
(e) J&KNC-2
(f) JMM-1, AITC-1
(g) KC(M)-1
(h) NCP-6, SS-4
(i) MNF-1
(j) NPF-1
(k) BJD-7
(l) SAD-3
(m) SDF-1
(n) DMK-7
(o) AITC-8, AIFB-1
(p) Nominated

C. PARTY POSITION IN STATE / UNION TERRITORY LEGISLATURES

States/Union territories	Seats	INC	BJP	CPI(M)	CPI	NCP	BSP	Janata Dal (U)	Janata Dal (S)	Other Parties	Ind.	Total	Vacancies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Andhra Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Andhra Pradesh L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arunachal Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Assam L.A.*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bihar L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chhattisgarh L.A.	91	39	49	—	—	—	2	—	—	1[a]	—	91	—
Goa L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gujarat L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haryana L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh L.A.	68	36	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	1[b]	5	68	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.A.	89	18	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	55[c]	4	89	—
Jammu & Kashmir L.C.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jharkhand L.A.	82	13	19	—	—	—	—	2	—	46[d]	2	82	—
Karnataka L.A.	225	71	103	—	—	—	—	—	24	1[e]	7	206	19
Karnataka L.C.	75	17	43	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	1	73	2
Kerala L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.A.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maharashtra L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manipur L.A.	60	42	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	17[f]	—	60	—

Meghalaya L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mizoram L.A.	40	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8[g]	—	40	—
Nagaland L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Punjab L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rajasthan L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sikkim L.A.	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32[h]	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttarakhand L.A.	71	33	30	—	—	—	3	—	—	5[i]	—	71	—
Uttar Pradesh L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh L.C.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal L.A.	295	40	—	39	2	—	—	—	—	210[j]	2	295	—
UNION TERRITORIES													
Delhi L.A.	70	41	24	—	—	—	2	—	—	2[k]	1	70	—
Puducherry L.A.**	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information received from the State/Union territory Legislatures contained NIL report

** Information not received from the State/Union territory Legislatures

Party Position in the State/Union Territories Legislatures

a) Others-1 (Nominated)

b) Himachal Lokhit Party-1

c) National Conference-29, Peoples Democratic Party-21, Panthers Party-3, Jammu and Kahsmir Democratic Party Nationalist-1 and Peoples Democratic Front-1

d) Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-18, Jharkhand Vikas Morcha-11, All Jharkhand Students Union-6, Rashtriya Janata Dal-5, Jharkhand Party-1, Jai Bharat Samanta Party-1, Marxist Co-ordination-1, Jharkhand Janadhikar Manch-1, Rashtriya Kalyan Paksha-1, Communist Party of India (Male)-1

e) Nominated-1

f) All India Trinamool Congress-7, Manipur State Congress Party-5, Naga People Front-4, Lok Jan Shakti Party-1

g) Mizo National Front-3, Mizoram Peoples' Conference-2, Zoram Nationalist Party-2 and Mara Democratic Front-1

h) Sikkim Democratic Front-32

i) Uttarakhand Kranti Dal-1, Others-3, Nominated-1

j) All India Trinamool Congress-186, All India Forward Block-12, Revolutionary Socialist Party-7, Samajwadi Party-1, Democratic Socialist Party-1, Gorkha Janmukti Morcha-3, Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist)-1, Nominated-1

k) Lok Janshakti Party-1 and Rashtriya Janata Dal-1

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